Instructor: Dr. Ashley Araiza
Email: ashley.araiza@angelo.edu
Phone: 325-486-6718
Office: Academic Building 104G / Zoom
Virtual Office Hours: MTWRF 11:00am–1:00pm or By Appointment

Course Information

Course Description
Psychology is the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. A primary goal of this course is for you to gain an understanding of the major topics that comprise the field of psychology. Psychologists study a variety of topics, including motivation, aggression, stereotyping, prejudice, cognition, childhood and developmental psychopathology, close relationships and attachment, stress, health behaviors, learning and memory in animals, and more! Despite the numerous topics in psychology, there are underlying and common themes, theories, and methods. This course will introduce you to a variety of theoretical perspectives, research methods, empirical findings, and practical applications of psychology.

Course Credits
This course is worth 3 credit hours (3-0).

Prerequisite Skills
Using the Blackboard Learning Management System, accessing Internet websites, using ASU Library resources, and proficiency with creating and submitting electronic files (e.g., .docx files).

Course Delivery
This is an in-person course that will also utilize the Blackboard Learning Management System for announcements, course documents, and assignment submissions. The course Blackboard site can be accessed at ASU's Blackboard Learning Management System.

Required Texts and Materials
Student Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identify basic concepts and theories in psychology</td>
<td>Quizzes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In-class Activities and Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrate familiarity with research methods and important research findings in psychology</td>
<td>Quizzes</td>
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<td>Research Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apply psychology principles to everyday life</td>
<td>Topic/Journal Reflections</td>
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<td>Group Project</td>
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Topic Outline

Week 1: Syllabus and Course Introduction
Week 2: Research Methods, Topic Reflection 1
Week 3: Neuroscience, Topic Reflection 2
Week 4: Quiz 1 and Group Project Work
Week 5: Consciousness and Learning, Topic Reflection 3
Week 6: Memory and Cognition, Topic Reflection 4
Week 7: Quiz 2 and Group Project Work
Week 8: Human Development, Topic Reflection 5
Week 9: Psychological Disorders, Topic Reflection 6
Week 10: Quiz 3 and Group Project Work
Week 11: Social Psychology, Topic Reflection 7
Week 12: Emotions and Health, Topic Reflection 8
Week 13: Quiz 4 and Group Project Work
Week 14: Holiday Break
Week 15: Psychology Careers
Week 16: Finals Week

Communication

I will always try to respond to email, telephone, and/or Blackboard messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday to Friday; weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Course-related questions should be asked in class or posted on the “Help/General Questions” board in the course Discussion section of Blackboard. All private communication should be done exclusively during office hours or through your ASU email address; check email frequently for announcements. In all email communications, please include “PSY 2301” at the beginning of the subject line so that I may quickly identify class emails and respond as soon as possible.

Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Zoom, Blackboard Collaborate, Skype, etc. **Virtual office hours will be conducted via Zoom; see the “Office Hours” tab on our Blackboard course to attend Virtual Office Hours.**
Syllabus Changes
I may make changes as necessary to this syllabus, the course content, and/or the course schedule. If changes become necessary during the course, I will notify you in class, by email, or with course announcements posted on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to check daily for such communications about the course.

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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic/Journal Reflections (8 x 10 points)</td>
<td>80 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Class Activities and Assignments (10 x 10 points)</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (4 x 30 points)</td>
<td>120 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Project (1 x 100 points)</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Participation (4 points)</td>
<td>See Assignment Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>400 points</strong></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 = 360-400 points
B = 320-359 points
C = 280-319 points
D = 240-279 points
F = 0-239 points (Grades are not rounded up)

Student Responsibility and Attendance
You are expected to attend class. To complete this course successfully, you need to participate in all course activities (e.g., topic reflections, group work, in-class assignments, etc.). You are also expected to submit assignments on time. The hope is that you will make substantive contributions that reflect integration of assigned materials as well as your experiences, as appropriate. This class will probably require a minimum of about 6-9 study hours per week.

Teaching Strategies
Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (beyond the materials and lectures presented in class) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-reviewed journal articles, researching information and examples on the Internet, and discussing material with their peers.
Assignment and Activity Descriptions

*Please note: Rubrics for all assignments and activities are located at the end of this syllabus.

**Topic/Chapter Journal Reflections (80 points):** For the eight weeks that we cover textbook chapters (e.g., Week 2 we cover Chapter 2), you will be asked to reflect on material covered in the textbook and on your own thoughts, personal experiences, and interests related to the topic and material. The journal entries (worth 10 points each) will not be graded for content, they are only meant to help you connect course material to your own lives and experiences to help illustrate how psychology principles apply to our world. For each topic reflection, you will create a journal entry on Blackboard and reflect on course materials outside of class. Journal entries are due on Blackboard by the end of the week (i.e., Sunday at 11:59PM). If we cover two topics in one week (e.g., the week of 9/20 we will cover “Consciousness” and “Learning and Behavior”), you still only need to complete one journal entry, but that journal entry can reflect content from any one of the topics for that week or a combination of the topics for that week. More details can be found under the Topic Reflections tab on Blackboard.

**In-Class Activities and Assignments (100 points):** Unannounced class activities or assignments will be given throughout the semester. Some examples of possible assignments include group activities or games, surveys, brief reading or film summaries, or class discussions. If you are in class and complete an activity/assignment, you should expect to earn full credit. Your grade for in-class activities and assignments inherently encompasses both attendance and participation; as such, in-class activities and assignments cannot be made up if you miss class. Details for in-class activities will be provided in class.

**Quizzes (120 points):** There will be four in-person quizzes, each worth 30 points. Quizzes will be comprised of multiple-choice questions drawn from lecture slides, your textbook, any supplemental assigned readings, any assigned videos, and any other relevant course materials. Each quiz will reflect content from the topics covered before it; quizzes will not be cumulative.

**Group Project (100 points):** Throughout the semester, you will work with a small team to complete different activities to help you understand psychology. Some project tasks will be solo activities that you can choose to complete in or outside of class, whereas other tasks will be group activities that you will complete in or outside of class. Project tasks will be completed in class or on Blackboard. Each individual and group activity completed will earn your group a certain number of points; at the end of the semester, you will be awarded the number of points earned by your group as your final project grade. In-class group work points cannot be made up. More details about the specific activities related to this project will be provided in class.

**Research Participation (4 points).** You will be required to participate in 4 units of research participation through SONA so that you may learn about the research process in psychology. Not completing 4 SONA credits will result in points deducted from your final grade; completing 4 SONA credits will result in bonus points added to your final grade. More specific details and further instructions for completing research studies through SONA are posted on Blackboard.
Assignment Submission
Most assignments will be completed in class, but some assignments will be submitted via Blackboard and technology do issues arise from time to time. If an issue occurs with an assignment submission, email me and attach a copy of your assignment. Also, contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue.

Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy
Late work and missed assignments are not accepted. If you have extenuating circumstances, please contact me ASAP; I want you to be successful in this course! Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the original due date.

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

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. 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 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.

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:
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](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Dates</th>
<th>Topic/Assignments/Assessments Due</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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</table>
| **Week 1** | **Topics: Syllabus and Course Introduction**  
Syllabus and Course Review  
Introductions to Each Other and Psychology | • Syllabus       |
| Week of 8/23 |                                  |                  |
| **Week 2** | **Topic: Research Methods**  
Research Methods in Psychology  
Due Sunday by 11:59PM: Topic Reflection 1 | • Chapter 2   |
| Week of 8/30 |                                  |                  |
| **Week 3** | **Topic: Neuroscience**  
Biology of the Mind  
Sensation and Perception  
Due Sunday by 11:59PM: Topic Reflection 2 | • Chapter 3 Pages 47-53 & 60-75  
• Chapter 4   |
| Week of 9/6 |                                  |                  |
| **Week 4** | **Topic: Quiz and Project Week**  
Quiz Review / Group Project Work  
9/16: Quiz 1 (Chapters 2, 3, 4) |                  |
| Week of 9/13 |                                  |                  |
| **Week 5** | **Topic: Consciousness and Learning**  
Consciousness  
Learning and Behavior  
Due Sunday by 11:59PM: Topic Reflection 3 | • Chapter 5 Pages 121-132  
• Chapter 6   |
| Week of 9/20 |                                  |                  |
| **Week 6** | **Topic: Memory and Cognition**  
Memory  
Cognitive Processes and Intelligence  
Due Sunday by 11:59PM: Topic Reflection 4 | • Chapter 7  
• Chapter 8   |
| Week of 9/27 |                                  |                  |
| **Week 7** | **Topic: Quiz and Project Week**  
10/5: Quiz 2 (Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8)  
Group Project Work |                  |
<p>| Week of 10/4 |                                  |                  |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Dates</th>
<th>Topic/Assignments/Assessments Due</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8 Week of 10/11</td>
<td><strong>Topic: Human Development</strong>&lt;br&gt;Human Development&lt;br&gt;Personality&lt;br&gt;Due Sunday by 11:59PM: Topic Reflection 5</td>
<td>• Chapter 10 Pages 261-262, 269-273, &amp; 278-290&lt;br&gt;• Chapter 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9 Week of 10/18</td>
<td><strong>Topic: Psychological Disorders</strong>&lt;br&gt;Psychological Disorders&lt;br&gt;Treatment for Psychological Disorders&lt;br&gt;Due Sunday by 11:59PM: Topic Reflection 6</td>
<td>• Chapter 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10 Week of 10/25</td>
<td><strong>Topic: Quiz and Project Week</strong>&lt;br&gt;10/26: Quiz 3 (Chapters 10, 13, 14)&lt;br&gt;Group Project Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11 Week of 11/1</td>
<td><strong>Topic: Social Psychology</strong>&lt;br&gt;Social Psychology&lt;br&gt;Due Sunday by 11:59PM: Topic Reflection 7</td>
<td>• Chapter 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12 Week of 11/8</td>
<td><strong>Topic: Emotions and Health</strong>&lt;br&gt;Emotions and Stress&lt;br&gt;Health and Health Behaviors&lt;br&gt;Due Sunday by 11:59PM: Topic Reflection 8</td>
<td>• Chapter 12&lt;br&gt;• Health Psychology Reading (on Blackboard)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 13 Week of 11/15</td>
<td><strong>Topic: Quiz and Project Week</strong>&lt;br&gt;11/16: Quiz 4 (Chapters 12, 16, Health Rdg.)&lt;br&gt;Group Project Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14 Week of 11/22</td>
<td><strong>Topic: Holiday Break!</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15 Week of 11/29</td>
<td><strong>Topic: Psychology Careers</strong>&lt;br&gt;Careers and Graduate School in Psychology&lt;br&gt;Group Project Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16 Week of 12/6</td>
<td><strong>Topic: Finals Week</strong>&lt;br&gt;12/9: Group Project Summary Due by 10:00AM</td>
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**Grading Rubrics**

Grading rubrics will be included in assignment instructions inside of the Blackboard Learning Management System or provided in class, when applicable.
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.

The most essential SLOs related to this course are:

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/
2 https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/
3 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
4 https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/
5 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures
6 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
7 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