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
This course will provide an integrated blend of content and methodology in representative areas of experimental psychology, with methods discussed in the context of actual research. Some representative areas include cognitive psychology, human factors, social psychology, health psychology, neuroscience, clinical psychology, or industrial/organizational psychology.

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

Course Prerequisites
PSY 2301

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 utilize the Blackboard Learning Management System for announcements, course documents, assignments, and/or exams. 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 and define basic concepts and methods in experimental psychology</td>
<td>Reading Quizzes, Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate knowledge of how experimental psychologists collect data and share research findings</td>
<td>Reading Quizzes, Exams, Group Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apply knowledge of experimental psychology to design an experiment to test a research question in psychology</td>
<td>Weekly Activity Days, Group Project</td>
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Topic Outline

Week 1: Syllabus and Course Introduction
Week 2: The Science of Psychological Research
Week 3: Defining and Measuring Variables
Week 4: Research Ethics
Week 5: Exam 1 and Project Week
Week 6: Research Methods Overview
Week 7: The Experimental Research Strategy
Week 8: Experimental Designs
Week 9: Exam 2 and Project Week
Week 10: Experimental Psychology in Action
Week 11: Experimental Psychology in Action (cont.)
Week 12: Data Collection for Experimental Studies
Week 13: Analyzing Data and Reporting Results
Week 14: Holiday Break
Week 15: Creating Poster Presentations
Week 16: Finals Week (Mock Poster Presentation)

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 3301” 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>Reading Quizzes (8 x 10 points)</td>
<td>80 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Activity Days (15 x 10 points)</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams (2 x 50 points)</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project (1 x 70 points)</td>
<td>70 points</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>400 points</strong></td>
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</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.

**Reading Quizzes (80 points):** For the eight chapters that we cover from your textbook, you will take a brief reading quiz. The quizzes will be completed through Blackboard and they will be due prior to the start of class when we will cover the chapter. The quizzes are meant to help you prepare for the exams and class. More details about accessing and completing quizzes will be provided in class and on Blackboard.

**Weekly Activity Days (150 points):** Each week, there will be at least one day focused on an activity or set of activities to help you gain further insight into experimental psychology. There are 15 activity days scheduled, each worth 10 points. Some examples of possible activities include individual or group meetings with me, brainstorming research ideas, evaluating research questionnaires, visiting psychology research labs on campus, designing your own experimental study, collecting data, engaging with guest speakers, or completing research training. Activities or assignments that occur on Weekly Activity Days cannot be made up if you miss class. Details for activities will be provided in class.

**Exams (100 points):** There will be two exams, each worth 50 points. Exams 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 exam will reflect content from the topics covered before it; exams will not be cumulative.

**Group Project (70 points):** Throughout the semester, you will work with a small team to design and present a basic experimental research study. Your work will result in a final poster presentation that you will present in a mock poster session during the last week of class, in lieu of a final exam. In order to receive full credit for the project, you must (1) participate in all aspects of the research process, such as study design, material development, and data analysis (40 points); (2) contribute to the creation of your group’s research poster (15 points); and (3) play an active role in presenting and explaining your study during the mock poster session (15 points). We will work on these projects continuously during the course and specific details will be provided in class, when appropriate.

**Extra Credit (2 points).** You can participate in up to 2 units of research participation through SONA to earn extra credit for our course. More specific details and further instructions for completing research studies through SONA will be posted on Blackboard. If you are able to tell whether a research study is an experimental design, you should participate in that study over a non-experimental design, given the nature of this course. It is most often not possible to determine this from the SONA description, however, but you should try (e.g., an in-person laboratory experiment may be more likely to be a true experimental design than an online survey study delivered via Qualtrics). Please feel free to chat with me about this if you do want to try completing at least one experimental study, but note that you can complete any studies to earn the 2 points.
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:
Online: [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://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](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**   | **Week of 8/23** Topic: Syllabus and Course Introduction  
Syllabus and Course Review  
Introduction to Experimental Psychology  
Weekly Activity Day                          | Syllabus          |
| **Week 2**   | **Week of 8/30** Topic: The Science of Psychological Research  
The Scientific Method  
Research Ideas and Hypotheses  
Weekly Activity Day                          | Chapter 1, Chapter 2 |
| **Week 3**   | **Week of 9/6** Topic: Defining and Measuring Variables  
9/6: NO CLASS (Holiday)  
Defining and Measuring Variables  
Weekly Activity Day                          | Chapter 3          |
| **Week 4**   | **Week of 9/13** Topic: Research Ethics  
Ethics in Research  
Open Science  
Weekly Activity Day                          | Chapter 4, Added Reading |
| **Week 5**   | **Week of 9/20** Topic: Exam and Project Week  
Exam 1 Review  
9/22: Exam 1 (Chapters: 1, 2, 3, 4)  
Weekly Activity Day                          |                  |
| **Week 6**   | **Week of 9/27** Topic: Research Methods Overview  
Research Strategies Overview  
Validity  
Weekly Activity Day                          | Chapter 6          |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Dates</th>
<th>Topic/Assignments/Assessments Due</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topic: The Experimental Research Strategy</strong>&lt;br&gt;Defining an Experiment&lt;br&gt;Experimental Control&lt;br&gt;Weekly Activity Day</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 10/4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 8</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topic: Experimental Designs</strong>&lt;br&gt;Between-Persons Design&lt;br&gt;Within-Persons Design&lt;br&gt;Weekly Activity Day</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of 10/11</td>
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<td>Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topic: Exam and Project Week</strong>&lt;br&gt;Exam 2 Review&lt;br&gt;10/20: Exam 2 (Chapters: 6, 7, 8, 9)&lt;br&gt;Weekly Activity Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 10/18</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 10</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topic: Experimental Psychology in Action</strong>&lt;br&gt;Exam 2 Overview&lt;br&gt;Cognitive Psychology Experiments&lt;br&gt;Weekly Activity Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 10/25</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 11</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topic: Experimental Psychology in Action</strong>&lt;br&gt;Social Psychology Experiments&lt;br&gt;Health Psychology Experiments&lt;br&gt;Weekly Activity Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 11/1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 12</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topic: Data Collection for Experimental Studies</strong>&lt;br&gt;Human Factors Psychology Experiments&lt;br&gt;Data Collection&lt;br&gt;Weekly Activity Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 11/8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 13</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topic: Analyzing Data and Reporting Results</strong>&lt;br&gt;Analyzing Basic Experimental Studies (t-tests)&lt;br&gt;Data Analysis&lt;br&gt;Weekly Activity Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 11/15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 14</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topic: No Class</strong>&lt;br&gt;Enjoy the holiday!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 11/22</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topic: Creating Poster Presentations</strong>&lt;br&gt;Creating Poster Presentations&lt;br&gt;Weekly Activity Day x 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 11/29</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 16</strong></td>
<td><strong>Topic: Finals Week</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mock Poster Session (10:30AM to 12:30PM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 12/6</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