

PSY 3301

EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

SPRING 2022



Instructor: Dr. Ashley Araiza

Email: ashley.araiza@angelo.edu | Phone: 325-486-6718

Office: Academic Building 104G / Zoom | Office Hours: MW 1:30pm-4:30pm or By Appointment

Graduate Assistant: Carter Adams, M.S. Student in Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Email: cadams31@angelo.edu

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 also will utilize [ASU's Blackboard Learning Management System](#) for announcements, course documents, assignments, and/or exams.

Required Texts and Materials

Research Methods for the Behavioral Sciences (6th Edition). Gravetter, F. J., & Forzano, L. B.
ISBN: 9781337613316

Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcome By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:
Identify and define basic concepts and methods in experimental psychology	Reading Quizzes, Learning Activities, Exams
Demonstrate knowledge of how experimental psychologists collect data and share research findings	Reading Quizzes, Learning Activities, Exams, Project
Apply knowledge of experimental psychology to design an experiment to test a research question in psychology	Learning Activities, Project

Topic Outline

Week 1: Syllabus and Course Introduction
Week 2: The Science of Psychological Research
Week 3: Variables and Research Ethics
Week 4: Exam Week
Week 5: Research Methods Overview
Week 6: The Experimental Research Strategy
Week 7: Experimental Designs
Week 8: Exam Week
Spring Break
Week 9: Nonexperimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs
Week 10: Advanced Designs
Week 11: Exam Week
Week 12: Analyzing and Illustrating Data
Week 13: Experimental Psychology in Action
Week 14: Experimental Psychology in Action (cont.)
Week 15: Groupwork on Posters
Week 16: Finals Week (Poster Presentations)

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., if necessary.

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.

Assessment	Points of Total Grade
Reading Quizzes (11 x 5 points)	55 points
Learning Activities (18 x 10 points)	180 points
Exams (3 x 50 points)	150 points
Group Project (1 x 60 points)	60 points
SONA Research Participation (2 studies x 2.5 points)	5 points
Total	450 points

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 = 405-450 points

B = 360-404 points

C = 315-359 points

D = 270-314 points

F = 0-269 points

Student Responsibility and Attendance

Most point-based activities will be completed in class, and you are expected to attend. **Your grade will be heavily impacted if you miss classes.** To complete this course successfully, you need to participate in all course activities (e.g., learning activities, group work, exams, 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

***When applicable, assignment instructions and/or grading rubrics will be provided in class or on Blackboard.**

Reading Quizzes (55 points): For each of the 11 chapters that we cover from your textbook, you will take a brief reading quiz **before class**. The quizzes will be completed through Blackboard, and they will be due the Sunday prior to the week when we will cover the chapter. The quizzes are meant to help you prepare for class and the exams. More details about accessing and completing quizzes will be provided in class and on Blackboard.

Learning Activities (180 points): Each week, there will be 1-2 learning activities to help you gain further insight into experimental psychology. There will be 18 activities throughout the semester, each worth 10 points. Some activities will be completed in class and others will be given as homework assignments. Examples of possible activities include evaluating research questionnaires, designing your own experimental studies, completing research training, reading and summarizing journal articles, answering discussion questions, attending guest lectures, structured work on group projects, and more. Details and specific due dates (e.g., for homework assignments) will be provided in class or on Blackboard at appropriate timepoints.

Exams (150 points): There will be three exams, each worth 50 points. Exam questions will be drawn from lecture slides, your textbook, any supplemental assigned readings, and any other relevant course materials (e.g., activities). Exams may be comprised of a mix of multiple-choice, matching, short-answer, or long-answer questions. Exams will not be cumulative.

Group Project (60 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 research poster and final presentation that you will present in a mock poster session during the last week of class, in lieu of a final exam. To earn credit for the project, you must (1) participate in all aspects of the research process, such as study design, material development, data generation, and in-class poster work (40 points); (2) contribute to and submit a final group poster that correctly outlines your study design and results (10 points); and (3) play an active role in presenting, explaining, and answering questions about your study during the mock poster session (10 points). We will work on these projects continuously during the semester and further details about various aspects of the project will be provided in class at appropriate timepoints.

Research Participation (5 points): You are required to earn 2 credits for completing research studies on SONA. To do this, you can complete two SONA studies worth 1 credit each **OR** four SONA studies worth .5 credits each, or any other combination that earns you 2 SONA credits. Each SONA credit will count as 2.5 points in our course, for a total of 5 research participation points (2.5 points x 2 credits). If you can tell whether a SONA study is an experimental design, you should participate in that study over a nonexperimental design. It is often not possible to determine this from the SONA description, however, but you can and should try (e.g., an in-person lab study is more likely to be an experiment than an online survey study on 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 SONA credits.

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

Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the original due date. Outlined below are the late policies for the various activities in our course. If you have a **DOCUMENTED extenuating circumstance** and contact me ASAP, we can discuss additional options outside of those listed here.

Reading Quizzes and Learning Activities: Late work will be accepted up to one week after a due date with a 25% point deduction from your final score or up to two weeks after a due date with a 50% point deduction from your final score. For example, if you submit a reading quiz late but within one week of its due date and you receive 10/10 points on the late quiz, the final score entered into the gradebook for you would be 7.5/10 points; if you submit a reading quiz more than one week late but less than two weeks late and you receive 10/10 points on the late quiz, your recorded score would be 5/10 points earned for that late submission. Missed assignments more than two weeks late will not be accepted under any circumstances whatsoever.

For late submission of any assignments available on Blackboard, please submit/complete them on Blackboard. For missed learning activities that are not available on Blackboard, contact me.

**This late work policy does not apply to exams or to any activities related to your group project (whether in or outside of class). Additionally, there will be some in-class learning activities that will be part individual work and part group work; in those cases, you may receive an additional deduction for not completing the group portion of an activity submitted late.*

Exams and Group Project: Exams cannot be made up unless you have a **DOCUMENTED extenuating circumstance** that causes you to miss the in-class exam day. Assignments and activities related to your Group Project cannot be made up because they are group-based and depend on the combined efforts of you and your other group members; in other words, it is not possible for you alone to submit any aspect of your project at a different time than your group members without either causing your peers to also submit the activity late or illustrating that your group members did all of the work that was submitted by them on time without you.

Grading Rubrics

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

Tentative Course Schedule

Course schedule is subject to change with adequate notice

Week/Dates	Topic/Assignments/Assessments Due	Readings
Week 1 Week of 1/18	<u>Topic: Syllabus and Course Introduction</u> Syllabus and Course Review Introduction to Experimental Psychology Due Sunday 1/23 at 11:59PM: Chapters 1 & 2 Quizzes	Syllabus
Week 2 Week of 1/24	<u>Topic: The Science of Psychological Research</u> The Scientific Method Research Ideas and Hypotheses Due Sunday 1/30 at 11:59PM: Chapters 3 & 4 Quizzes	Chapter 1 Chapter 2
Week 3 Week of 1/31	<u>Topic: Variables and Research Ethics</u> Defining and Measuring Variables Ethics in Research	Chapter 3 Chapter 4
Week 4 Week of 2/7	<u>Topic: Exam Week</u> Exam 1 Review & Groupwork Wednesday 2/9: Exam 1 (Chapters: 1, 2, 3, 4) Due Sunday 2/13 at 11:59PM: Chapter 6 Quiz	
Week 5 Week of 2/14	<u>Topic: Research Methods Overview</u> Exam 1 Overview & Groupwork Research Strategies Overview and Validity Due Sunday 2/20 at 11:59PM: Chapter 7 Quiz	Chapter 6
Week 6 Week of 2/21	<u>Topic: The Experimental Research Strategy</u> Defining an Experiment and Experimental Control Due Sunday 2/27 at 11:59PM: Chapters 8 & 9 Quizzes	Chapter 7
Week 7 Week of 2/28	<u>Topic: Experimental Designs</u> Between-Persons Designs Within-Persons Designs	Chapter 8 Chapter 9
Week 8 Week of 3/7	<u>Topic: Exam Week</u> Exam 2 Review & Groupwork Wednesday 3/9: Exam 2 (Chapters: 6, 7, 8, 9) Due Sunday 3/20 at 11:59PM: Chapter 10 Quiz	
Week of 3/14	SPRING BREAK	
Week 9 Week of 3/21	<u>Topic: Nonexperimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs</u> Exam 2 Overview & Groupwork Nonexperimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs Due Sunday 3/27 at 11:59PM: Chapters 11 & 14 Quizzes	Chapter 10
Week 10 Week of 3/28	<u>Topic: Advanced Designs</u> Factorial Designs Single-Case Experiments	Chapter 11 Chapter 14

Week/Dates	Topic/Assignments/Assessments Due	Readings
Week 11 Week of 4/4	<u>Topic: Exam Week</u> Exam 3 Review & Groupwork Wednesday 4/6: Exam 3 (Chapters: 10, 11, 14)	
Week 12 Week of 4/11	<u>Topic: Analyzing and Illustrating Data</u> Exam 3 Overview & Groupwork Analyzing Experimental Data & Groupwork	Additional Reading(s)
Week 13 Week of 4/18	<u>Topic: Experimental Psychology in Action</u> Cognitive Psychology Experiments Social Psychology Experiments	Additional Reading(s)
Week 14 Week of 4/25	<u>Topic: Experimental Psychology in Action</u> Health Psychology Experiments Human Factors Psychology Experiments	Additional Reading(s)
Week 15 Week of 5/2	<u>Topic: Groupwork on Posters</u> Finalize Posters Prepare for and Practice Presentations	
Week 16 Monday 5/9	<u>Topic: Finals Week</u> Mock Poster Session (10:30AM to 12:30PM)	

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](#)¹
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)²

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](#).³

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](#).⁴ 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](#)⁵ for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)⁶ 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](#).⁷

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](#)⁸ 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

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.

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
4. Learning how to find, evaluate, and use resources to explore a topic in depth

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>