

Psy 6346-D10, D20

Psychology of Creativity

Spring 2022



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Office: A 104A

Office Hours: M: 12pm-4pm, T/Th: 11am-2pm

Course Information

Course Description

Creativity involves the generation of an idea that is both novel and valued, and it is critical to aspects of our lives, ranging from mundane (e.g., solving personal and interpersonal problems) to profound (creating works of art, making scientific discoveries). As the world changes in complexity, creativity becomes increasingly one of the most important personal and business strategies for survival and success. This class will examine psychological theories and research focusing on creative thinking and accomplishment. Students will also develop techniques and skills for innovation and effective problem solving applied to real life issues.

Course Credits

3

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

Introduction to Psychology (PSY 2301)

Prerequisite Skills

Accessing Internet websites, using ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint are expectations of completing Psychology of Creativity successfully.

Program Outcomes

Upon completion of the program of study for the Masters Degree in Applied Psychology, the graduate will be prepared to:

Master Psychological Knowledge and Skills

Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcome By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:	Mapping to Program Outcomes
Have a foundational knowledge of the history and development of the creativity theories presented in the textbook, understanding the components of each creativity model or approach, and identifying the strengths and weaknesses of each model.	Chapter readings, quizzes, and tests	Psychological Knowledge and Skills
Be able to apply what you have learned from the textbook, identifying practical uses of creativity theory in other contexts, and recognition of your own skills relative to the leadership approach being studied.	Quizzes and tests	Apply Concepts and Research
Be able to connect the concepts and behaviors learned in class to other ideas, people and realms of life. For example, how is creative problem-solving different from other problem-solving? What makes a solution creative? How does the context of creativity (such as medicine, music or science) affect the expectations and outcomes of ideas?	Discussion questions, Course Project	Apply Concepts and Research, Psychological Ethics
Understand the human dimension of creativity; learning about yourself and others. How does knowing about creativity theory help one to function and relate to others more effectively? How useful are the various creativity models and approaches for developing creativity skills in others?	Discussion questions, Course Project	Apply Concepts and Research, Psychological Ethics
Develop new interests in creativity or caring about creativity to a greater extent than before. Students who care become engaged in issues outside of the classroom and continue to develop their skills.	Chapter readings, quizzes, and tests	Psychological Knowledge and Skills

Course Delivery

This is an online course offering. The course will be delivered via the Blackboard Learning Management System. The course site can be accessed at [ASU's Blackboard Learning Management System](#).

The syllabus, announcements, and grades for this class may be found on Blackboard. I encourage students to access this site regularly for important information pertaining to the course. Thus, it is imperative that you have proficient knowledge of operating and, to some extent, troubleshooting, internet browsers, the Blackboard course management system, Respondus, word processing programs, and e-mail. Should you have any technical problems with Blackboard, Respondus, or your e-mail, it is your responsibility to get the situation resolved immediately. While I can help with a limited amount of trouble-shooting, your best resource for solving these problems is the ASU IT department. Thus, it is a good idea not to leave assignments until the last minute, in case you encounter technical problems.

Please see the **“Getting Started”** document, posted in the Information section in Blackboard for an introduction to the use of Blackboard and the components involved in this course, and refer to the Support Tab in Blackboard with questions over the use of Blackboard and Respondus.

This course is delivered completely online. Assignments and activities will be listed on the course website on the Blackboard course management system. It is IMPERATIVE that you keep up with this class, checking Bb regularly, and noting due dates for assignments and quizzes. It is easy to forget about online classes, but be forewarned that I will not accept late work, and there is no excuse for forgetting about assignments!

Additionally, you MUST use (check daily) your ASU e-mail address for this class, as it is the best way for me to contact you.

Required Texts and Materials

Explaining Creativity: The Science of Human Innovation (2nd ed.) by R. Keith Sawyer

Recommended Texts and Materials

The text for the course is listed above. The last page of the syllabus lists the tentative schedule of topics. The course is built around the textbook. I suggest that you read the material prior to taking quizzes or tests and answering discussion questions. There are exams, assignments, and group projects for the class; these are described below.

Technology Requirements

To successfully complete this course, students need to have access to a computer with Respondus LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor. More information about LockDown Browser and Monitor is included below.

To participate in one of ASU's distance education programs, you need this technology:

- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OSX 10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these web browsers: internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam

Refer to Angelo State University's Distance Education website for further technology requirements: [Angelo State University's Distance Education Website](#)

Topic Outline

The topics that will be covered in this course can be found in the Course Schedule at the end of the syllabus.

Communication

I must be able to contact all students in this course via e-mail. It is expected that students regularly check their e-mail and Blackboard (at least once a day is preferred). The best way to contact me is via e-mail. Although I answer e-mail regularly (and relatively quickly) throughout the work week (Monday - Friday, 7:30AM to 4:30PM), I respond to it less frequently on weekends and holidays. During those times, you can expect an answer to your e-mail within 24-48 hours. There may be times during the semester, when I do not have access to email. I will be sure to notify students if such situations occur.

If you are on campus and would like to drop by my office, please feel free to do so. As I am often away from my desk, it is probably best to arrange a specific time in advance. Please email me to do so.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

Virtual communication: Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Collaborate, Skype, etc.

Grading

Evaluation and Grades

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

Assessment	Percent/Points of Total Grade
Chapter Summaries	200 points (4 summaries @ 50 points each)
4 tests	400 points (4 tests @ 100 points per test)
Quizzes	100 points (10 quizzes @ 100 points per quiz)
Discussion Questions	50 points (10 weeks @ 5 points per week)
Course Project	100 points
Total	850 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 = 90.00-100 points

B = 80.00-89.99 points

C = 70.00-79.99 points

D = 60.00-69.99 points

F = 0-59.99 points (Grades are not rounded up)

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 the course**) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

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

Chapter Summaries: This very interesting book has far too many chapters to cover in one course. I tried to select chapters based on a broad appeal to most students, for us to cover in class. That, however, leaves out many other interesting chapters! Thus, for each exam period, I would like you to read one additional chapter to those assigned, and summarize the chapter. Please describe the chapter's key takeaway points, and how those points can be applied (broadly), and how you might personally use what you learned in the chapter. Additionally, please discuss anything that you found surprising, or just particularly compelling from the chapter. These assignments will probably be 2-3 pages. They will be due at the time each exam is due (Sunday at 11:59pm of exam week).

Exams: There will be four (4) exams, including the final, covering material from the textbook as well as lectures and discussions. The exams are worth 100 points each. These exams will contain 50 questions, and you will have 60 minutes to complete each exam, and you will have TWO attempts; the highest grade will count. Exam items may include multiple choice, matching and true/false items. The final exam will **not** be comprehensive. **There will be NO make-ups scheduled for the exams.** You will have the entire week (beginning Monday at 12:00am, ending Sunday at 11:59pm) to complete the exams; that means that you may take the exam any time during those days, but the exam must be COMPLETED by 11:59pm on Sunday of the exam weeks.

Quizzes: Each week, you will have a quiz to complete that covers the topic of the unit being covered that week. These are designed to help students keep up with and apply the material. You will have the entire week (beginning Monday at 12:00am, ending Sunday at 11:59pm) to complete the weekly assignment or quiz, and given their nature they **may not** be "made up". There will be NO exceptions. Quizzes will be multiple choice, and they will be timed. You will have TWO attempts for each quiz; the highest grade will count. Quizzes are worth 10 points each, and they will cover material from the text. There will be 12 assignments/quizzes, each worth 10 points, and I will drop your 2 lowest grades, for a total of 10 quizzes.

Weekly Discussion Board Posts: Each week, each student will be required to respond directly to two discussion questions that I have posted pertaining to the topic of the unit that is being covered that week **and respond to a colleague's post at least once**. Your discussion posts are

due by Sunday of each week at 11:59pm. There are 12 weeks of Discussion Boards, but I will drop 2 weeks' worth, for the occasional slip-up, should you forget or become sick.

The response must be substantive; more than just "I agree" discussion board posts. These posts are worth 5 points each. Be considerate and appropriate when using the discussion board. It is neither a public forum nor a limited public forum. I have the right to remove any message for the purposes of saving space, focusing attention of students on relevant materials, and avoiding material inappropriate for the classroom. On this last note, with freedom comes responsibility. Please keep in mind, as you contribute to the discussion board, that not everyone comes from the same background, or shares the same values and ideals. Please be appropriate (professional) and considerate of others. If you have any questions on this matter, contact the instructor for clarification.

Please apply this same courtesy whenever communicating with anyone in the course, whether it is myself or another student, in any way, including e-mail, discussion board responses, and any other communication.

Course Project: For the course project, I would like you to perform a written analysis of 1) a creative person, 2) a creative organization, or 3) a specific creative product/process. Please include a discussion of the traits, motivations, creative productivity, and environmental obstacles and opportunities involved in whatever/whomever is the focal point of your analysis. This project can either be done in groups of 2-3, or you may work on the project by yourself if you prefer. The course project is due the Sunday of Week 14 by 11:59pm.

All assignments should be typed and presented in a professional manner. You may always turn in assignments early; I will accept them prior to their scheduled due date.

Grades will be posted on Blackboard as they become available.

Assignment Submission

All assignments MUST be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at cstenmark@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue. This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your

assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy

Deadlines: NO LATE WORK will be accepted in this course. Exceptions will be made only for serious illness or emergency and then only after discussion with the instructor. Please contact the instructor by telephone or email if an emergency situation occurs.

If the student is involved in a university-approved absence, arrangements should be made with the instructor as far in advance as possible to ensure agreement on interpretation and the make additional arrangements for different deadlines.

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

Student Responsibility and Attendance

Online: This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time. There are readings which you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities i.e. discussion boards, course projects, reflective logs, etc. Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions which reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate. Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week on average.

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 Day⁸](#) 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

Week	Date	Topic/Assignments/Assessments DUE	Readings
1	Jan 17	Syllabus, Introduction	1
2	Jan 24	Conceptions of Creativity	2
3	Jan 31	Personality	4
4	Feb 7	Test 1	1, 2, 4
5	Feb 14	Creative Process, Part 1	5
6	Feb 21	Creative Process, Part 2	6
7	Feb 28	Creative Process, Part 3	7
8	Mar 7	Test 2	5-7
	Spring Break		
9	Mar 21	Sociology of Creativity	11
10	Mar 28	Group Creativity	12

Week	Date	Topic/Assignments/Assessments DUE	Readings
11	Apr 4	Organizational Creativity	13
12	Apr 11	Test 3	11-13
13	Apr 18	Education and Creativity	21
14	Apr 25	How to be more Creative	22
15	May 2	Assessment	3
16	May ?	Final Exam	21, 22, 3

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 specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course

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>