# PSYC 1315-007: Intro to Psychology

Fall 2020

## Instructor Information

### Instructor

### Cassie Argenbright

Cassie.argenbright@uta.edu

Life Science 506

Office Hours: Fridays 1-2pm, or by appointment (optional in-person or online through Microsoft Teams)

### Office Telephone Number

Dept. of Psychology

P: 817-272-2281 | F: 817-272-2364

## Course Information

### Section Information

**PSYC 1315-001**

### Time and Place of Class Meetings

MWF 9:00 – 9:50am, **SEIR 294**

### Description of Course Content

The fundamental methods and content of scientific psychology. Concentration on the understanding of basic principles.Introduction to psychology is a course with wide-ranging topics, covering material such as intelligence, motivation, personality, mental health, therapy, and more. The course will present basic psychological concepts with an emphasis on real-world applications. Students will be assessed on their comprehension of the various psychological models presented in this course. This course satisfies the University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in social and behavioral sciences. As such, it contains core objectives in critical thinking, communication, empirical and quantitative reasoning, and social responsibility.

### Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will:

* Be familiar with key psychological theories
* Understand the basic principles of psychological research
* Be aware of the various sub-disciplines in psychology
* Have a basic understanding when reading and evaluating psychology articles
* Understand how psychology can be applied to our everyday lives

In addition, as this course satisfies the University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in social and behavioral sciences, it contains core objectives and learning outcomes in the following:

* Critical Thinking Skills include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
* Communication Skills include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
* Empirical and Quantitative Skills include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
* Social Responsibility includes intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

### Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials

***“The Science of Psychology"* by Laura A. King, 5th edition.**

Students have the option of an electronic copy or hard copy.

Please note: The access code is OPTIONAL, this will give access to the electronic version, but is not required.

You do NOT need a CPS response pad.

### Descriptions of major assignments and examinations

There will be **8 online homework assignments** worth 10 points each. Due dates are provided in the course outline at the bottom of the syllabus (no excuses/no exceptions).

There will be **4 online module exams and a comprehensive final**. The lowest exam grade will be dropped. The exams will cover lecture content/discussion topics, textbook readings, and any supplemental content provided. Each exam will have approximately 50 multiple choice questions (worth 2 points each) for a total of 100 points. Each exam will have a time limit of 50 minutes.

**Research Participation Requirement**: The Psychology Department requires that all students taking Introduction to Psychology complete a 6-credit research requirement. You will be able to complete this requirement by participating in on site or online research conducted by department faculty and their research assistants. As an alternative to participating in research, you may choose to write reviews of approved research articles. Completing this assignment will be done via **Sona (http://uta.sona-systems.com/)**. A departmental handout detailing this requirement and important deadlines can be found at www.uta.edu/psychology at the **research participation information link**. Questions pertaining to this assignment can be sent to **psycpool@uta.edu.** Points are **not** added to the course grade for completion of the research participation requirement.

### Technology Requirements

All homework assignments and supplemental materials will be accessible through **Canvas**. The McGraw Hill Education **access code is OPTIONAL** and may be used to provide supplemental instruction or study tools.

## Grading Information

### Grading

All exams are of equal weight. Please note: Exams will not be curved.

4 Highest Exams 400 points

8 Homework Assignments 80 points

Total 480 points

A = 432-480 points, B = 384-431 points, C = 336-383 points, D = 288-335 points, F = 287 points and below

### Make-up Exams

There is no provision for taking a make-up exam in this course unless documentation for a University-approved excuse (see Catalog <http://www.uta.edu/catalog/general/academicreg>) is received within one week of the exam date, except with conditions that will prevent you from access to conscious means of communication. A makeup test is ONLY for those students who miss one of the first four tests for a valid UNIVERSITY APPROVED reason. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the professor ahead of time or immediately after an exam with excusatory documentation.

### Expectations for Out-of-Class Study

A general rule of thumb is that for every credit hour earned, a student should spend 3 hours per week working outside of class. Hence, a 3-credit course might have a minimum expectation of 9 hours of reading, study, etc. Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

### Grade Grievances

Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog.

## Course Schedule

 ***As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. – Cassie Argenbright***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Date** | **Day** | **In-class Topic:** | **Readings Due:** | **Assignments Due:** |
| **1** | 8/25/2021 | Wednesday | Syllabus |  |  |
| **1** | 8/27/2021 | Friday | Intro. to Psych | Chapter 1 |  |
| **2** | 8/30/2021 | Monday | Intro. To Psych | Chapter 1 |  |
| **2** | 9/1/2021 | Wednesday | Scientific Methods | Chapter 2 |  |
| **2** | 9/3/2021 | Friday | Scientific Methods | Chapter 2 |  |
| **3** | 9/6/2021 | Monday | **Labor Day- No class!** | HW 1 (Ch. 1 + 2) Due at 11:59pm |
| **3** | 9/8/2021 | Wednesday | Biological Psych | Chapter 3 |  |
| **3** | 9/10/2021(Census Date) | Friday | Biological Psych | Chapter 3 |  |
| **4** | 9/13/2021 | Monday | Sensation and Perception | Chapter 4 |  |
| **4** | 9/15/2021 | Wednesday | Sensation and Perception | Chapter 4 |  |
| **4** | 9/17/2021 | Friday | Sensation and Perception | Chapter 4 |  |
| **5** | 9/20/2021 | Monday | No class |  | HW 2 (Ch. 3 + 4) Due at 11:59pm |
| **5** | 9/22/2021 | Wednesday | Exam 1 (ONLINE- NO CLASS!) |  |  |
| **5** | 9/24/2021 | Friday | Consciousness | Chapter 5 |  |
| **6** | 9/27/2021 | Monday | Consciousness | Chapter 5 |  |
| **6** | 9/29/2021 | Wednesday | Learning | Chapter 6 |  |
| **6** | 10/1/2021 | Friday | Learning | Chapter 6 |  |
| **7** | 10/4/2021 | Monday | Memory | Chapter 7 | HW 3 (Ch. 5 + 6) Due at 11:59pm |
| **7** | 10/6/2021 | Wednesday | Memory | Chapter 7 |  |
| **7** | 10/8/2021 | Friday | Intelligence | Chapter 8 |  |
| **8** | 10/11/2021 | Monday | Intelligence | Chapter 8 |  |
| **8** | 10/13/2021 | Wednesday | No class |  | HW 4 (Ch. 7 + 8) Due at 11:59pm |
| **8**  | 10/15/2021 | Friday | Exam 2 (ONLINE- NO CLASS!) |  |  |
| **9** | 10/18/2021 | Monday | Development | Chapter 9 |  |
| **9** | 10/20/2021 | Wednesday | Development | Chapter 9 |  |
| **9** | 10/22/2021 | Friday | Motivation & Emotion | Chapter 10 |  |
| **10** | 10/25/2021 | Monday | Motivation & Emotion | Chapter 10 |  |
| **10** | 10/27/2021 | Wednesday | Personality | Chapter 12 | HW 5 (Ch. 9 + 10) Due at 11:59pm |
| **10** | 10/29/2021 | Friday | Personality | Chapter 12 |  |
| **11** | 11/1/2021 | Monday | Social | Chapter 13 |  |
| **11** | 11/3/2021 | Wednesday | Social | Chapter 13 |  |
| **11** | 11/5/2021(Last Day to Drop- 5pm) | Friday | No class |  | HW 6 (Ch. 12 + 13) Due at 11:59pm |
| **12** | 11/8/2021 | Monday | Exam 3 (ONLINE- NO CLASS!) |  |  |
| **12** | 11/10/2021 | Wednesday | I/O Psych | Chapter 14 |  |
| **12** | 11/12/2021 | Friday | I/O Psych | Chapter 14 |  |
| **13** | 11/15/2021 | Monday | Health Psych | Chapter 17 |  |
| **13** | 11/17/2021 | Wednesday | Health Psych | Chapter 17 |  |
| **13** | 11/19/2021 | Friday | Psychological Disorders | Chapter 15 | HW 7 (Ch. 14 + 17) Due at 11:59pm |
| **14** | 11/22/2021 | Monday | Psychological Disorders | Chapter 15 |  |
| **14** | 11/24/2021 | Wednesday | **Fall Break** |
| **14** | 11/26/2021 | Friday |
| **15** | 11/29/2021 | Monday | Therapies | Chapter 16 |  |
| **15** | 12/1/2021 | Wednesday | Therapies | Chapter 16 |  |
| **15** | 12/3/2021 | Friday | No Class |  | HW 8 (Ch. 15 + 16) Due at 11:59pm |
| **16** | 12/6/2021 | Monday | Exam 4 (ONLINE- NO CLASS!) | Last Day of Class |  |
| **16** | 12/8/2021 | Wednesday | **Student Study Day- No classes!** |
| **17** | 12/13/2021 | Monday | **Comprehensive Final Exam: 8 - 10:30am** (ONLINE- NO CLASS!) |

## Institution Information

UTA students are encouraged to review the below institutional policies and informational sections and reach out to the specific office with any questions. To view this institutional information, please visit the [Institutional Information](https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php) page (https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php) which includes the following policies among others:

* Drop Policy
* Disability Accommodations
* Title IX Policy
* Academic Integrity
* Student Feedback Survey
* Final Exam Schedule

## Additional Information

**Face Covering Policy**

While the use of face coverings on campus is no longer mandatory, all students and instructional staff are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings while they are on campus. This is particularly true inside buildings and within classrooms and labs where social distancing is not possible due to limited space. If a student needs accommodations to ensure social distancing in the classroom due to being at high risk they are encouraged to work directly with the Student Access and Resource Center to assist in these accommodations. If students need masks, they may obtain them at the Central Library, the E.H. Hereford University Center’s front desk or in their department.

### Attendance

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator of student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, **I will not be taking attendance. However, attendance and participation is strongly encouraged. This MWF course that lectures in-person. You will be responsible for all material covered during class, whether you were present or not.** However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report must the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Canvas. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

**Emergency Exit Procedures**

Should we experience an emergency event that requires evacuation of the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, do not take an elevator but use the stairwells instead. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Academic Success Center**

The Academic Success Center (ASC) includes a variety of resources and services to help you maximize your learning and succeed as a student at the University of Texas at Arlington.  ASC services include supplemental instruction, peer-led team learning, tutoring, mentoring and TRIO SSS.  Academic Success Center services are provided at no additional cost to UTA students. For additional information visit:  [Academic Success Center](https://www.uta.edu/student-success/course-assistance). To request disability accommodations for tutoring, please complete this [form](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Q1vcXL7XqkyBc3KeOwpi2ccSjcIXpSJAqJFuDEhczLlUMVVHRVRIVlJJWDZJWlVYOUgxNjRPODdLVS4u).

**The** [**IDEAS Center**](https://www.uta.edu/ideas/) (https://www.uta.edu/ideas/) **(**2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **FREE** [tutoring](https://www.uta.edu/ideas/services/tutoring/index.php) and [mentoring](https://www.uta.edu/ideas/services/mentoring/index.php) to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. Students can drop in or check the schedule of available peer tutors at www.uta.edu/IDEAS, or call (817) 272-6593.