Psy 1315 004: Intro to Psy
Fall 2023

Instructor Information

Instructor
Derek Mangino Sirvent

Office Number
LS 411
Wed 13:00 to 14:00 and Thur 18:00 to 19:00

Email Address
Djm8434@mavs.uta.edu

Faculty Profile
Derek (https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Derek-Mangino-Sirvent)

Course Information

Section Information
Psi 1315. 004

Time and Place of Class Meetings
Tx Hall 105 Tue and Thur 9:30 to 10:50 in-person.

Description of Course Content
- This course introduces students to phenomena, principles, and theories in psychology.
- Psy is the scientific study of living organisms (often focusing on humans).
- Psy considers mind, attitudes, and behaviors of groups and of individuals
- Psychologists use empirical research and various methods to investigate and analyze mental processes and behavioral patterns.

Student Learning Outcomes
After completing this course, students should be able to:
- 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
- Employ psychology to understand, predict, and improve outcomes in a real-world situation.

This course is designed to interest and meet the needs of both psychology majors and non-majors. 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.

- **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.

These 👆 will be assessed as items in an end of year quiz that will be posted on Canvas. As with the Research Participation Requirement, completion of this assessment is required.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials

- Link to required text book – ebook version 60$ Watch to link your Canvas account to McGrawl
  The charge for your eBook and other digital materials goes directly to your UTA account, making it eligible for Financial Aid. You may also purchase a loose-leaf copy of the textbook from McGrawHill if you would like to have a physical copy of the text. **The link to the eBook and Connect will be available in Canvas.** When registering for Connect for the first time, you must log in to Connect through Canvas to sync up your Connect and Canvas gradebooks. If students fail to sync their accounts, they will not have their Connect grades show up in Canvas. **Please use your UTA email address when you register for Connect.** This **registration will not be available until the course start date.**
- Blue book / notebook / journal (anything to write in and submit)
- **Canvas**

Canvas will be an important component of the course throughout the semester. **All course communication will come via Announcements in Canvas. G**rades and supplemental resources are also posted on Canvas. Canvas support is available 24/7 by calling 1 (855) 597-3401 or visiting https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations
- Final Exam: Cumulative 100 multiple choice questions 150 minutes in-person

- Unit Exams: 3 online Exams (50 multiple choice questions) Each exam is worth 50 points. All exams will be cumulative (meaning that questions may include content from previous units). These will be done online asynchronous. You may take them in your own time between the Thursday mentioned in the schedule and the nearest Sunday. You will have a limit of 50 minutes upon starting the test. **Connect Plus will automatically submit your exam if you fail to finish the exam so make sure you have enough time to complete the exam and that you will not have technical issues that interfere.**

- SmartBook: An interactive text designed to help you review the material learned in each chapter. The SmartBook system continually adjusts to your level of content mastery. A link to each SmartBook assignment can be found on Canvas. Each chapter on average will take at least 1.5 hours to complete, therefore you should not expect to complete these in a single run (spread out the work!). Answering incorrectly will mean that a student will need to spend more time in the assignment. Each SmartBook module will be worth 25 points. All chapters of each unit are due on the same day, which does not mean that you should do them at the last minute. It would be more convenient for you to complete the readings at the same pace, as the class schedule.

- Core Curriculum Quiz: 180 minutes to complete 43 institution-selected questions.

- Semester Project: Throughout the semester, you will be learning about the people and societies that surround you. This semester-long project offers you the opportunity to put into practice the concepts covered in the classroom, applying them to real-life situations. As you engage with psychological phenomena during your lessons, your task is to observe and identify instances of these phenomena in the world around you. Your assignment involves maintaining a journal where you document specific scenarios that illustrate the psychological phenomena discussed in class. For each scene you describe, explain how it aligns with a phenomenon you studied in class.

- 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.

FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE REQUIREMENT WILL RESULT IN AN INCOMPLETE FOR THE CLASS. You will then need to complete your requirement (all 6 hours, regardless of what you may have completed this semester) during the next semester or the Incomplete will turn into an "F."

Grading scale

Percentages	Letter Grade
90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

▲ Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester which Canvas facilitates, and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see "Student Support Services," below.

Grade Leniency?

- **Do not e-mail me to ask for more points so that you can get the grade that you want. If you want a specific grade, then you need to put in the effort necessary to obtain said grade. I do not round up to the next letter grade so pay close attention to the cut-off for each letter grade.**
- All deadlines are final, no exceptions, regardless of the circumstances. Students who do not submit work or an exam by the indicated deadline will automatically receive a zero.
- No Make-up Exams. **You have plenty of time to complete these.**

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study

Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 6 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 (Undergraduate Grading Policies). Also see Student Complaints

Course Schedule

To get the best out of this class, I recommend you skim through the chapter content <u>before</u> each class

<div align="center">Unit 1: Chapters 1 – 5</div>

Chapter 1 – What is Psychology?
Chapter 4 – Sensation & Perception
Chapter 5 – States of Consciousness
Chapter 2 – Psychology's Scientific Method

Chapter 3 — Biological Foundations of Behavior
Exam 1, and Semester Project check 1 Sep 14

Unit 2: Chapters 6 – 9
Chapter 6 — Learning
Chapter 7 — Memory
Chapter 8 — Thinking, Intelligence, and Language
Chapter 9 — Human Development
Exam 2 and Semester Project check 2 Oct 12

UNIT 3: Chapters 10 – 13
Chapter 13 — Social Psychology
Chapter 11 — Gender, Sex, and Sexuality
Chapter 10 — Motivation & Emotion
Chapter 12 — Personality
Exam 3 and Semester Project check 3 Nov 9

UNIT 4: Chapters 14 – 17
Chapter 14 — Industrial & Organizational
Chapter 15 — Psychological Disorders
Chapter 16 — Therapies
Chapter 17 — Health Psychology
Core Curriculum Quiz, and Semester Project final check Nov 30

Final Exam: Tuesday, Dec 12 at 8:00 – 10:30 a.m. (Exam Schedules)

- **Note:** Do not necessarily rely on percentages and letter grades provided in Canvas.
  - Those are largely out of my control and may not reflect all calculations.
  - **Your grade is based on:**

Assignments	Points	Totals
Semester Project	4 @ 45	180
SmartBook	17 @ 25 each	425
Core Curriculum Quiz	1 @ 45	45
Unit Exams	3 @ 50 each	150

Final Exam	1 @ 200	200

<div align="center" style="color:red">Total: 1,000</div>

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.

Institutional 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 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

Attendance
Attending class sessions is a critical predictor and indicator of student success. The University of Texas at Arlington does not recognize a single attendance policy but encourages faculty—to establish class-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have decided not to attendance. It is your choice to make the right decition and get what you are paying for

The U.S. Department of Education requires that UT Arlington have a mechanism in place to verify Federal Student Aid recipients' attendance in courses. UT Arlington instructors are expected to report the last date of attendance when submitting students' final course grades; specifically, when a student earns a course grade of F, instructors must report the last date a student attended their class. For on-campus classes, last date of attendance can be based on attendance rosters or on academic engagements—a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or Canvas-based activity. Online or distance education courses require regular and substantive online interaction and participation. Students must participate in online course activities in Canvas to demonstrate attendance; logging into an online class is not sufficient by itself to demonstrate attendance. The last date of attendance is reported to the U.S. 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, ▲ which is located in the back. 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 tutoring request form (https://www.uta.edu/student-success/course-assistance/tutoring/request).

▲ The <u>IDEAS Center</u> (https://www.uta.edu/ideas/) (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **FREE** <u>tutoring</u> and <u>mentoring</u> 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.

The English Writing Center (411LIBR)
▲ The Writing Center offers **FREE** tutoring in 15-, 30-, 45-, and 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Register and make appointments online at the <u>Writing Center</u> (https://uta.mywconline.com). Classroom visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see <u>Writing Center: OWL</u> (http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2nd floor <u>Academic Plaza</u> (http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the <u>library's hours</u> (https://library.uta.edu/hours) of operation.

Librarian to Contact
▲ Each academic unit has access to <u>Librarians by Academic Subject</u> (http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php) that can assist students with research projects, tutorials on plagiarism and citation references as well as support with databases and course reserves.

Emergency Phone Numbers

▲ In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381

Library Information

♦ **This final section is <u>not</u> part of the syllabus template, but a message from the UT Arlington Library.**

♦ Faculty members should feel free to incorporate any of the following information into your course syllabus or other course materials.

Research or General Library Help
Ask for Help
- <u>Academic Plaza Consultation Services</u> (library.uta.edu/academic-plaza)
- <u>Ask Us</u> (ask.uta.edu/)
- <u>Research Coaches</u> (http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach)
Resources
- <u>Library Tutorials</u> (library.uta.edu/how-to)
- <u>Subject and Course Research Guides</u> (libguides.uta.edu)
- <u>Librarians by Subject</u> (library.uta.edu/subject-librarians)
- <u>A to Z List of Library Databases</u> (libguides.uta.edu/az.php)
- <u>Course Reserves</u> (https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course_reserves)
- <u>Study Room Reservations</u> (openroom.uta.edu/)

#######