

PSYC 1315: Introduction to Psychology

Fall 2023

Instructor Information

Instructor

Morgan Rios

Office Number

LS 507

Office Telephone Number

Psychology Department Office Telephone Number: 817-272-2281

Contact Information

morgan.rios@uta.edu

Office Hours

By appointment (via Teams)– **please e-mail me.**

Course Information

Section Information

PSYC 1315-007

Time and Place of Class Meetings

Classes will be held on campus.

Tuesdays/Thursdays 2:00pm-3:20pm, LS 119

This is an On Campus class and is scheduled to meet on **Tuesdays/Thursdays from 2:00pm - 3:20 pm**. Students will be required to attend all class sessions on campus (unless otherwise noted in the syllabus or announced in Canvas) on all scheduled days/times throughout the semester.

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.

Assessment of Core Curriculum Objectives

The Core Curriculum Objectives (critical thinking, communication, empirical and quantitative skills, and social responsibility) will be assessed as items in an end of year quiz to be explained by your course instructor. As with the Research Participation Requirement, completion of this assessment is required in order to fulfil Core Curriculum Objectives

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials

King, Laura (2023) The Science of Psychology: An Appreciative View, 6th Edition e-book with accompanying Connect Plus software. ISBN: 9781265792015

We are participating in the First Day Program where the materials are available in Canvas on the first day of class. Students are charged a discounted price for the required materials through their account after enrolling in a course using First Day textbooks. You can register for Connect and access your assignments directly from Canvas by clicking on a McGraw-Hill Connect assignment without an additional payment or access code. You can find instructions to register in Canvas via the McGraw-Hill First Day Registration Instructions.

Students can opt-out of the program: Please be advised it is NOT recommended that you opt-out, as these materials are required for your course at a reduced First Day price. If you decide you don't want to participate, you must opt-out of the First Day material through Canvas, by the deadline, and you will be responsible for purchasing course materials on your own at the opt-out price. If a student would like to purchase a hard copy of the textbook, they could do that through McGraw-Hill. Here is a link to McGraw-Hill's website about Inclusive Access: <https://www.mheducation.com/highered/inclusive-access.html>.

I am very new to all this, so if you have questions about Inclusive Access, please contact one of the McGraw-Hill publisher reps:

Kendall Gallagher - kendall.gallgher@mheducation.com
Tiffany Jobe - tiffany.jobe@mheducation.com

The Science of Psychology: An Appreciative View 5th ed (Inclusive Access)	5th	King	McGraw-Hill	9781265142711	Required
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Please use your UTA email address when you register for Connect. Connect provides a free two- week trial. If you take advantage of the trial, be sure to use the same login when you purchase the access code. You need to have access to Connect in order to pass this course.

Canvas:

Canvas will be an important component throughout the semester. Your exams and grades will be posted through Canvas, and supplemental resources will be provided. Make sure you have access to Canvas. Canvas support is available 24/7 by calling 1 (855) 597-3401 or visiting their website.

Students who have never used Canvas or need a refreshment need to complete the student orientation training before class begins: <https://uta.instructure.com/courses/17157>. Be sure to log on to Canvas every other day or more often to receive timely information. Students will register for McGraw-Hill Publisher's CONNECT at <https://uta.instructure.com> via Canvas first. Those who do not use Canvas to register for CONNECT will not be able to view their grades on CONNECT assignments. Once registered, then students will be able to access CONNECT directly at <http://connect.mheducation.com/> or via Canvas. Again, first register for CONNECT via Canvas to link your assignment grades to your grade book in Canvas.

DESCRIPTIONS OF MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS

SmartBook 2.0 Assignments: 30% of Final Grade

SmartBook is 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 approximately 45 to 60 minutes to complete. Scores are assigned based on the percentage of mastery for each assignment. There will be 17 SmartBook assignments, each assignment will be worth **15 points**. **Only scores for your top 10 SmartBook assignments will count towards your final grade to total 150 points, the lowest seven scores will be dropped from your final grade.**

The SmartBook Assignments can also be accessed on your iPhone or iPad and synced with Canvas:

Go here to download the iPhone app*:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/learnsmart/id365879172?mt=8>

Exams: 40% of Final Grade

There are four 50-question Unit Exams and a Comprehensive 100-question Final Exam (which will include all chapters). Each exam is worth 50 points, including the final. If a student is satisfied with their grade after completing the fourth exam, they can choose to not take the Final

Exam. Alternatively, the student can decide to take the Final Exam to try for a higher grade. The lowest exam grade will be dropped at the end of the course. **The remaining four exams will be added with the top 10 SmartBook 2.0 assignments scores.**

There are no make-up exams. If you miss an exam, regardless of the reason (illness, schedule conflict, etc.), you will need to plan to take the Comprehensive Final Exam to make up the grade on the missed exam. **Mark Exam Days in your calendar now to keep you prepared in advance for these possibilities.**

Rules for Exam Days:

- **Exams will be taken from home or in a quiet and secluded area on campus. This is an open book exam;** You will be expected to use Lockdown Browser.
- Once the exam begins, you may not leave your seat at any point. If that occurs due to unforeseen circumstances, please send me an email.
- The exam cannot be re-scheduled. Be sure to begin the exam at (T – duration of the exam) at the latest. This means that if the exam is due at 13:00 and it is 90 minutes long, you would need to begin no later than 11:30.

There are no make-up exams. If you miss an exam, you will earn a zero for that exam. You can take the final exam to make up the score for the missed exam.

Attendance: 15% of Final Grade

Regular attendance and participation will count towards your final grade. Students are expected to come to class having read the book chapter being taught on a specific day (check course schedule) and participate in in-class discussions held regarding that chapter. This is a straightforward and easy path to earning points and hence you are strongly recommended to take advantage of it.

Research Participation Requirement: 5% of Final Grade

The Psychology Department **requires** that all students taking Introduction to Psychology complete a research requirement. This requirement consists of participating in experiments conducted by Department Faculty and their Research Assistants. The UT Arlington Human Research Review Committee approves these experiments. A typical 30-minute experiment is worth 0.5-credit. Hence, if you participate in two 30-minute studies or one 60-minute study, you will be awarded 1 of the 6 credits required. In lieu of participating in experiments, you may choose to write reviews of current research articles. Each review is worth **1-credit**. You will not be graded on your performance in an experiment or on your reviews, they are completion grades. **If you do not complete this requirement, you automatically get an incomplete. You will have one semester to fulfill the requirement, after which you will automatically receive an F.**

Note: The purpose of the requirement is to give you first-hand knowledge of psychological experimentation, but in my experience, participating in these research studies is a really fun way to learn about all the cool things psychologists do research on.

For additional information about this requirement, please go to <http://www.uta.edu/psychology> and click on Research Participation (in the Links section) to receive a copy of the latest Psychology Pool Handout. More details will be provided in an orientation session and in an information handout. Points are **not** added to the course grade for completion of the research participation requirement.

Quizzes: 5% of Final Grade

There will be 5 in class quizzes.

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.

Optional Extra-Credit: Music Assignment

students will choose three songs of which to evaluate from a psychological perspective by answering questions that are listed in the “Assignments” button located in Canvas. You may earn up to 50 points. See the Course Schedule for the due date.

Technology Requirements

Students will use Connect for the SmartBook 2.0 assignments. Students will also access Canvas to keep track of course progress and stay informed regarding news and events taking place in class. You will need a webcam for the exams (do not worry about an external webcam if you have one built-in).

Grading Information

Summary of Graded Work

Assignments	Percentage	Points	Totals
SmartBook 2.0 Assignments	30%	15 points each (10)	150 points
Unit Exams (4) & Comprehensive Final Exam (lowest dropped)	40%	50 points each (4)	200 points
Attendance	15%	15 points each (5)	75 points
Research Participation	5%	5 points each (5)	25 points
Quizzes	10%	10 points each (5)	50 points
<i>Optional Extra Credit: Music Assignment</i>		Up to 50 points	
Total			500 points

Note: While the deadlines for the SmartBook Assignments are due at the end of the unit, it is **highly encouraged** that you complete each assignment with its respective chapter and week.

Final Grade

Percentages	Letter Grade
90-100%	A
80-89.9%	B

Percentages	Letter Grade
70-79.9%	C
60-69.9%	D
00-59.9%	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 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.

Information regarding grievances for matters other than grades is available in the [Student Rights](#) section of the catalog.

You may also click on the following link for additional assistance with the grievance process: <https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/science/departments/psychology/degree-programs/graduate/graduate-resources/student-grievance-form>

For student complaints, see [Student Complaints](#).

Make-up Quizzes/Assignments

There are no make-up quizzes or late assignments accepted. I understand that things happen that might cause a student to miss a quiz or miss an assignment: illness, work obligations, emergency travel. However, in order to be fair to all students, there are NO MAKE UP QUIZZES AND NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS ACCEPTED. If you miss a quiz or miss an assignment, you may complete the extra-credit opportunity that can be found under the “Assignments” button in our course in Canvas.

Classroom Protocol:

- No personal conversations with one another while the instructor is talking, holding a discussion or when another student has the floor.
- Unless you have an ADA provision, the instructor will not allow recording of any kind during class.
- Please silence your cell phones during class. These are very disruptive.
- Once class begins, please do not disrupt the class. If you need to leave the classroom and return for any reason, please do so quietly and respectfully to avoid interrupting the class. If the behavior becomes an issue, please discuss your circumstances with your instructor.
- Students are allowed to use laptops or other electronic devices during class for note-taking purposes. Please keep these devices muted to minimize disruption. If you need to plug your device into a wall outlet, please arrive early to get a seat near one.
- Personally, I would prefer for students to **not** use electronic devices to take notes. Multiple sources show that handwriting allows for greater memorization of new words and learning overall (Ihara et al., 2021).

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnhum.2021.679191/full>

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 6-9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required material, completing assignments, quizzes, etc.

Course Schedule

NOTE: 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. –Morgan Rios

Day	Date	Ch	Topic	Important Deadlines (11.59 pm)
TU	08/22	-	First Day of Class, Syllabus	
TH	08/24	1	Introduction to Psychology	
TU	08/29	2	Scientific Method	
TH	08/31	3	The Biological Basis of Behavior	
TU	09/05	3	The Biological Basis of Behavior	
TH	09/07	4	Sensation and Perception	
TU	09/12	4	Sensation and Perception	
TH	09/14		NO CLASS MEETING: UNIT 1 EXAM: Chapters 1, 2, 3,4	Unit 1 SmartBook Assignments Due
TU	09/19	5	States of Consciousness	
TH	09/21	5	States of Consciousness	
TU	09/26	6	Learning	
TH	09/28	7	Memory	
TU	10/03	7	Memory	
TH	10/05	8	Thinking, Intelligence, and Language	
TU	10/10	10	Motivation and Emotion	
TH	10/12		"Catch up Day"	
TU	10/17		NO CLASS MEETING: UNIT 2 EXAM: Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8,10	Unit 2 SmartBook Assignments Due
TH	10/19	9	Human Development	
TU	10/24	9	Human Development	
TH	10/26	11	Gender, Sex, and Sexuality	
F	10/27		Last day to withdraw from the course with a "W" on your transcript	Submit requests in MyMav prior to 4:00pm
TU	10/31	12	Personality	

Day	Date	Ch	Topic	Important Deadlines (11.59 pm)
TH	11/02	12	Personality	
TU	11/07	13	Social Psychology	
TH	11/09		NO CLASS MEETING: UNIT 3 EXAM: Chapters 9,11,12,13	Unit 3 SmartBook Assignments Due
TU	11/14	14	Industrial Psychology	
TH	11/16	15	Psychological Disorders	
TU	11/21	16	Therapies	
TH	11/23	-	NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	
TU	11/28	17	Health Psychology	
TH	11/30		NO CLASS MEETING: UNIT 4 EXAM: Chapters 14, 15,16,17	Unit 4 SmartBook Assignments Due
TU	12/05	Study Day	Last Day of Class	NO MEETING- EXTRA CREDIT DUE BY 11:59 PM
TH	12/07		Comprehensive FINAL EXAM	DUE 11:59 PM

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](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, you are being graded on your attendance (see "Grading Information"). 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 note 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, which is to the right when you exit our room. 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. [Emergency/Fire Evacuation Procedures](#). Students should also be encouraged to subscribe to the MavAlert system that will send information in case of an emergency to their cell phones or email accounts. Anyone can subscribe at [Emergency Communication System](#).

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](#). To request disability accommodations for tutoring, please complete this [form](#).

The IDEAS Center (<https://www.uta.edu/ideas/>) (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **FREE tutoring** and **mentoring** 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 [Writing Center](https://uta.mywconline.com) (<https://uta.mywconline.com>). Classroom visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see [Writing Center: OWL](#) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2nd floor [Academic Plaza](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) (<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 [library's hours](#) of operation.

Librarian to Contact

Each academic unit has access to [Librarians by Academic Subject](#) 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

Research or General Library Help

Ask for Help

- [Academic Plaza Consultation Services](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) (library.uta.edu/academic-plaza)
- [Ask Us](http://ask.uta.edu/) (ask.uta.edu/)
- [Research Coaches](http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach) (<http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach>)

Resources

- [Library Tutorials](http://library.uta.edu/how-to) (library.uta.edu/how-to)
- [Subject and Course Research Guides](http://libguides.uta.edu) (libguides.uta.edu)
- [Librarians by Subject](http://library.uta.edu/subject-librarians) (library.uta.edu/subject-librarians)
- [A to Z List of Library Databases](http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php) (libguides.uta.edu/az.php)
- [Course Reserves](https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course_reserves) (https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course_reserves)
- [Study Room Reservations](http://openroom.uta.edu/) (openroom.uta.edu/)