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# PSYC 1315-001: Introduction to Psychology

Fall 2024

*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.*

– Ashley Hall

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## Instructor Information

### Instructor Name

Ashley Hall, M.S. (she/her/hers)

### Office Location

Life Science 521

[View Campus Map](#)

### Office Phone Number

817-272-2281

### Email Address

[ashley.hall@uta.edu](mailto:ashley.hall@uta.edu)

*Please send all messages through Canvas Inbox.*

### Faculty Profile

To be provided at a later date.

### Office Hours

Monday and Wednesday 10:00-11:00

By appointment (optional in-person or online through Microsoft Teams)

### Communication Guidelines

My preferred communication method is Canvas Inbox.

I will respond to emails within 24 hours; if it is the weekend or after 5:00 PM, I will respond the next business day.

## Course Information

### Section Information

PSYC 1315-001

### Course Delivery Method

This course is designated ON-CAMPUS, which means the majority of course instruction, exams, and assignments are delivered on-campus.

For a full definition of the course modalities, please visit the [Course Modalities page](#).

### Time and Place of Class Meetings

College Hall 101

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:00-9:50 AM

### Time Zone

This course operates on Central Time. All times listed for class meeting times, exams, and assignment deadlines are in Central Time.

## **Description of Course Content**

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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.

## **Prerequisites**

None

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

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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.

## **Textbooks and Other Course Materials**

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### **Required Textbooks and 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.

Students: Additional materials for this course may range in cost depending on the project and or topic you choose to work on.

## **Descriptions of major assignments and examinations**

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**Module Exams** – You will be required to complete four module exams each worth 100 points. These 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 80 minutes and will be conducted using **Respondus Lockdown Browser with webcam**. *Exams are closed book and closed note. Please see the Academic Integrity section of this syllabus.*

**Study Guide Chapter Assignments** – You will be provided with study guides for each chapter. The study guide will have questions that go along with the assigned chapter for you to have a reading guide as you proceed through the textbook and prepare for each module exam. Each chapter's study guide will be worth 25 points and will be due the night before the corresponding module exam at 11:59 P.M.

*\*You must complete these by yourself and need to be your original work.\**

**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](http://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. If you do not complete the research participation requirement, you will receive an Incomplete for this course.*

**Core Curriculum Quiz** – at the end of the semester, you will be required to take a comprehensive exam worth up to 50 points that tests your knowledge of the contents of the course. The following is the breakdown of the grading scale for the Core Curriculum Quiz:

39-43 correct answers = 50 points  
34-38 correct answers = 40 points  
30-33 correct answers = 30 points  
25-29 correct answers = 20 points  
<25 correct answers = 10 points

**Extra-Credit** – An optional assignment for up to 50 points can be completed for extra-credit. The assignment will be provided to students after October. There will also be random extra credit points for class participation/attendance.

## **Expectations for Out-of-Class Study**

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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.

## Technology Requirements

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All homework assignments and supplemental materials will be accessible through Canvas. All exams will be online and conducted using Lockdown Browser with webcam. You will be required to download the program in order to take the exams. If you have questions about the program, you can find further information at the following link (<https://www.uta.edu/administration/distance/canvas/external-applications-home/respondus>). There are no exceptions to the Lockdown Browser policy. I will provide the download information at the beginning of the semester, and a practice quiz will be set up to allow you to test your equipment before the first exam.

Visit the [UTA Libraries Technology page](#) for a list of items that can be checked out or used at the library.

## Recording of Classroom and Online Lectures

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Faculty maintain the academic right to determine whether recording of classroom and online lectures is permitted by students. Recordings of classroom lectures, if permitted by the instructor or pursuant to an ADA accommodation, may only be used for academic purposes related to the specific course and may not be used for commercial purposes or shared with non-course participants except in connection with a legal proceeding.

As the instructor of this course, I elect to prohibit recording of classroom or online lectures.

## Grading Information

### Graded Assignments & Values

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#### Grading

Assignments	Points	Totals
Module Exams	4 @ 100 points each	400 points
Study Guide Chapter Assignments	17 @ 25 points each	425 points
Core Curriculum Quiz	50 points	50 points

**TOTAL: 875 points**

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.

### Final Grade Calculation

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#### Final Grade

Points	Letter Grade
783-875	A (89.5-100%)
695-782	B (79.5-89.4%)
608-694	C (69.5-79.4%)
520-607	D (59.5-69.4%)
<519	F (0-59.4%)

## Make-Up Exams & Late Work Policy

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There is **no provision** for taking a make-up exam in this course unless documentation for a University-approved excuse (see <https://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/studentresponsibility/#attendancetext>) is received **within one week** of the exam date, except with conditions that will prevent you from access to conscious means of communication. Make-up exams or exam extensions will also only be offered for students who can provide dated official documentation related to personal emergency or illness (for example: doctor's note). It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor ahead of time or immediately after an exam with excusatory documentation. Exam make-ups or extensions will not be granted under any circumstances other than the aforementioned reasons.

Make-ups or extensions for missed homework assignments will NOT be granted. Each graded assignment will be available to students at least one week prior to listed deadline and therefore no excuses will be allowed. If you miss an assignment, you can complete the extra-credit opportunity that will be provided in April.

**Make-up work or extensions will not be offered for technology issues. Both exams and homework assignments are available for extended periods of time, wherein students may complete them at any point. If you are experiencing technology issues, reach out to the instructor or OIT ASAP. Resources are available on campus to accommodate these types of issues. Do not wait until the last minute to complete your work to allow yourself to utilize these resources should a technological issue arise.**

## Extra Credit Policy

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Various extra credit opportunities will be provided throughout the semester. These are due by the provided deadline, and there will be no exceptions for late work.

## Grades & Feedback Timeline

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Grades will be updated on Canvas within 48 hours of the current module's submission/exam deadline.

## Grade Grievances

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In attempting to resolve any student grievances regarding grades, it is the student's obligation first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the individual with whom the grievance originated. Individual course instructors retain primary responsibility for assigning grades. The instructor's judgment is final unless compelling evidence shows preferential treatment or procedural irregularities. If students wish to appeal, their request must be submitted in writing—on an appeal form available in departmental or program offices—to the department chair or program director. The student has one calendar year from the date the grade is assigned to initiate the grievance. The normal academic channels are department chair or program director and then academic dean. However, before considering a grievance, the department chair or program director will refer the issue to a departmental or program committee of faculty. If the student does not find the committee's decision acceptable, the student may appeal to the academic dean. The decision of the dean is final. Information specific to the procedures to be followed in each academic unit is available in the office of the academic dean.

The dean of the college or school in which a student is enrolled, or the Executive Director of University College if the student has not declared a major, has jurisdiction over the student's program of study, degree requirements and all other academic matters including grievances. However, students taking a course in a college or school other than the one in which they are primarily registered are subject to the dean of the college or school in which the course is offered concerning the course and academic grievances regarding the course.

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 Grades and Grading Policies](#). Information regarding grievances for matters other than grades is available in the [Student Rights](#) section of the catalog. For student complaints, see [Student Complaints](#).

## University & Course Policies

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

### **Attendance**

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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 will not be taking attendance. However, attendance and participation is strongly encouraged and I will provide random extra credit assignments in-class. This Monday, Wednesday, Friday course holds lectures in person. You will be responsible for all material covered during class, whether you were present or not.

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.

### **Generative AI Use in This Course**

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The use of Generative AI (GenAI) in course assignments and assessments must align with the guidelines established by the instructor. Unauthorized use of GenAI could result in breaches of academic integrity. Instructors bear the responsibility of clearly delineating the permissible uses of GenAI in their courses, underscoring the importance of responsible and ethical application of these tools.

The [UTA Office of Community Standards](#) articulate the university's stance on [academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty](#). These standards extend to the use of GenAI. Unauthorized or unapproved use of

GenAI in academic work falls within the scope of these policies and will be subject to the same disciplinary procedures.

As the instructor of this course, I have adopted the following policy on Student use of GenAI:

### **Prohibition of GenAI Use**

<b>Approach</b>	<b>Description</b>
Prohibition of GenAI Use	In this course, the focus is on the development of independent critical thinking and the mastery of subject-specific content. To ensure that all submitted work accurately reflects personal understanding and original thought, the use of Generative AI (GenAI) tools in completing assignments or assessments is strictly prohibited. This policy supports our commitment to academic integrity and the direct measurement of each student's learning against the course's Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). Any work found to be generated by AI will be subject to academic review.

## **Academic & Wellness Resources**

### **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) (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) (https://www.uta.edu/student-success/course-assistance/tutoring/request).

### **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](http://www.uta.edu/owl) (http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

### **Academic Plaza**

The Library's 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](https://library.uta.edu/hours) (https://library.uta.edu/hours) of operation.

### **UTA CARE Team**

UT Arlington is committed to the safety, success, and well-being of our students. To support our community, UTA has created a CARE Team, which is a dedicated group of campus professionals responsible for helping students who could benefit from academic, emotional, or psychological support, as well as those presenting risk to the health or safety of the community. If you know of someone experiencing challenges, appearing distressed, needing resources, or causing a significant disruption to the UTA community, please submit a [CARE Referral](#) by visiting the [Behavior Intervention Team](#)

(<https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/dos/behavior-it>) page. You may also submit a referral for yourself if you would like additional support.

NOTE: If a person's behavior poses an immediate threat to you or someone else, contact UTA Police at 817-272-3303 or dial 911. If you or someone you know needs to speak with a crisis counselor, please reach out to the [MAVS TALK 24-hour Crisis Line](https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/caps/crisis) (<https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/caps/crisis>) at 817-272-8255 or the [National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](https://988lifeline.org/) (<https://988lifeline.org/>) at 988.

## **Student Services**

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Everything you need to make the most of your time as a student (and beyond) is all on campus. Below are a few resources to get you started.

- [Student Services Home](#)
- [Student Access and Resource \(SAR\) Center](#)
- [Military and Veteran Services](#)
- [Health Services](#)
- [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#)
- [Activities and Organizations](#)
- [Recreation](#)

## **Librarian to Contact**

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Each academic unit has access to [Librarians by Academic Subject](https://libraries.uta.edu/research/librarians) (<https://libraries.uta.edu/research/librarians>) that can assist students with research projects, tutorials on plagiarism and citation references as well as support with databases and course reserves.

## **Safety Information & Resources**

### **Face Covering Policy**

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Face coverings are not mandatory; all students and instructional staff are welcome to wear face coverings while they are on campus or in the classroom.

### **Emergency Exit Procedures**

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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 at the classroom front and back (depending on where you are sitting). 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.

### **MavAlert System**

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The MavAlert system sends information in case of an emergency to cell phones or email accounts of subscribed users. Anyone can subscribe to MavAlerts at [Emergency Communication System](https://www.uta.edu/uta/emergency.php) (<https://www.uta.edu/uta/emergency.php>).

### **Emergency Phone Numbers**

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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

## Course Schedule

<b>Mon, 8/19</b>	<b>First Day of Class, Syllabus</b>
Wed, 8/21	Chapter One Lecture, SONA Presentation (tentative)
Fri, 8/23	Chapter One Lecture
Mon, 8/26	Chapter Two Lecture
Wed, 8/28	Chapter Two Lecture
Fri, 8/30	Chapter Three Lecture
Mon, 9/2	<b>LABOR DAY, NO CLASS</b>
Wed, 9/4	Chapter Three Lecture
Fri, 9/6	Chapter Three/Four Lecture
Mon, 9/9	Chapter Four Lecture
Wed, 9/11	Chapter Four Lecture
<b>Thurs, 9/12</b>	<b>STUDY GUIDES DUE BY 11:59 P.M.</b>
<b>Fri, 9/13</b>	<b>MODULE ONE EXAM DUE BY 11:59 P.M.</b>
Mon, 9/16	Chapter Five Lecture
Wed, 9/18	Chapter Five Lecture
Fri, 9/20	Chapter Six Lecture
Mon, 9/23	Chapter Six Lecture
Wed, 9/25	Chapter Seven Lecture
Fri, 9/27	Chapter Seven Lecture
Mon, 9/30	Chapter Eight Lecture
Wed, 10/2	Chapter Eight Lecture
<b>Thur, 10/3</b>	<b>MODULE TWO STUDY GUIDES DUE BY 11:59 P.M.</b>
<b>Fri, 10/4</b>	<b>NO CLASS – MODULE TWO EXAM DUE BY 11:59 P.M.</b>
Mon, 10/7	Chapter Nine Lecture
Wed, 10/9	Chapter Nine Lecture
Fri, 10/11	Chapter Eleven Lecture
Mon, 10/14	Chapter Eleven Lecture
Wed, 10/16	Chapter Ten Lecture
Fri, 10/18	Chapter Ten Lecture
Mon, 10/21	Chapter Fourteen Lecture
Wed, 10/23	Chapter Fourteen Lecture
Fri, 10/25	Chapter Twelve Lecture
<b>Mon, 10/28</b>	<b>NO CLASS – STUDY DAY/WORK ON EXTRA CREDIT</b>
Wed, 10/30	Chapter Twelve Lecture
Fri, 11/1	Chapter Twelve Lecture
<b>Sun, 11/3</b>	<b>MODULE THREE STUDY GUIDES DUE BY 11:59 P.M.</b>
<b>Mon, 11/4</b>	<b>NO CLASS – MODULE THREE EXAM DUE BY 11:59 P.M.</b>
Wed, 11/6	Chapter Thirteen Lecture
Fri, 11/8	Chapter Thirteen Lecture
Mon, 11/11	Chapter Thirteen Lecture
Wed, 11/13	Chapter Fifteen Lecture
Fri, 11/15	Chapter Fifteen Lecture
Mon, 11/18	Chapter Fifteen Lecture
Wed, 11/20	Chapter Sixteen Lecture
Fri, 11/22	Chapter Sixteen Lecture
Mon, 11/25	Chapter Seventeen Lecture
<b>11/27-11/29</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break, NO CLASS</b>
Mon, 12/2	LAST DAY OF CLASS – Chapter Seventeen Lecture, Wrap Up
Wed, 12/4	Student Study Day

Thur, 12/5  
Fri, 12/6  
Mon, 12/9

**MODULE FOUR STUDY GUIDES DUE BY 11:59 P.M.**  
**MODULE FOUR EXAM DUE BY 11:59 P.M.**  
**CORE CURRICULUM QUIZ DUE BY 11:59 P.M.**  
**EXTRA CREDIT DUE BY 11:59 P.M.**