# PSYC 1315-002: Intro to Psychology

Spring 2023

## Instructor Information

### Instructor

### Cassie Argenbright

[Cassie.argenbright@uta.edu](mailto:Cassie.argenbright@uta.edu)

Life Science 506

Office Hours: 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 1315-002**

### Time and Place of Class Meetings

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:00 – 11:50am, **LS 119**

### 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

### Required Textbook/ISBN: This course will be using the eBook *“The Science of Psychology"* by Laura A. King, 5th edition with an online program from McGraw-Hill called Connect. The link to the ebook and Connect will be available in Canvas. You may also purchase a loose-leaf copy of the textbook from McGraw-Hill if you would like to have a physical copy of the text.

**HOW TO REGISTER TO GET ACCESS TO THE TEXTBOOK:**

The ebook for this course comes included when you register for this class. To get access to the ebook, navigate to the McGraw-Hill Connect tab within the Canvas shell for this course. There, you can register with your student email address to get access to the book.

* + For questions about gaining access to the textbook, please go to Canvas > Access this course > Modules > Getting Started > Textbook Access

### Descriptions of major assignments and examinations

There will be **8 online homework assignments** worth 20 points each. Due dates are provided in the course outline at the bottom of the syllabus (no excuses/no exceptions). *Homework assignments are open book and open note.*

There will be **4 online module exams**. 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 100 minutes and will be conducted using **Respondus Lockdown Browser with webcam.** *Exams are closed book and closed note assignments. Please see the Academic Integrity section of this syllabus.*

**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.* **If you do not complete the research participation requirement, you will receive an Incomplete for this course.**

**Optional major course assignments**

Students will have the opportunity to participate in **ONE** additional project for the opportunity to replace their lowest course exam grade. Project participation is *optional*, and choosing not to complete one of the projects will not harm your grade. If the project grade assigned is lower than any of the 4 exam grades, the project will not count towards the final course grade. Only the four highest grades from course exams and optional projects will be retained for calculation of the student’s final grade.

Students may choose to complete either the Service-Learning project *or* the Build-A-Exam project. All minimum requirements for either project must be completed for the submission to be considered for credit. Detailed requirements for these optional projects will be provided in Canvas.

### Technology Requirements

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](https://www.uta.edu/administration/distance/%20canvas/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 every exam.

## Grading Information

### Grading

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

4 Exams (*or* 3 exams + project grade) 400 points

8 Homework Assignments 160 points

Total 560 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/Homework

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 than the aforementioned reasons.

Make-ups or extensions for missed homework assignments will only be offered for students who can provide dated official documentation related to a University-approved excuse, personal emergency, or illness (see above) **within 3 days** of the homework due date. Extensions for homework assignments will not be granted under any circumstances other than the aforementioned reasons.

**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 ASAP. Resources are available on campus to accommodate these types of issues. Do not wait until the last minute to complete your work, so that you may utilize these resources should a technological issue arise.**

### 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. The grade grievances form for this course may be located here: <https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/science/departments/psychology/degree-programs/graduate/graduate-resources/student-grievance-form>.

**Academic Integrity**

All students are expected to live by the University of Texas at Arlington’s honor code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence. I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or that I contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Arlington to uphold and support standards of personal honesty and integrity for all students consistent with the goals of a community of scholars and students seeking knowledge and responsibility. Furthermore, it is the policy of the University to enforce these standards through fair and objective procedures governing instances of alleged dishonesty, cheating and other academic/non-academic misconduct. Students found responsible for dishonesty in their academic pursuits are subject to sanctions that may range from disciplinary probation, suspension and expulsion from the University. **Academic dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarism and collusion (**[**https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/academic-integrity**](https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/academic-integrity)**). Under no circumstances will academic dishonesty be tolerated.**

## 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** | 1/18/2023 | Wednesday | Syllabus |  |  |
| **1** | 1/20/2023 | Friday | Intro. to Psych | Chapter 1 |  |
| **2** | 1/23/2023 | Monday | Scientific Methods | Chapter 2 |  |
| **2** | 1/25/2023 | Wednesday | Scientific Methods | Chapter 2 |  |
| **2** | 1/27/2023 | Friday | Biological Psych | Chapter 3 |  |
| **3** | 1/30/2023 | Monday | Biological Psych | Chapter 3 | HW 1 (Ch. 1 + 2) Due at 11:59pm |
| **3** | 2/1/2023  **CENSUS DATE** | Wednesday | Biological Psych | Chapter 3 |  |
| **3** | 2/3/2023 | Friday | Sensation and Perception | Chapter 4 |  |
| **4** | 2/6/2023 | Monday | Sensation and Perception | Chapter 4 |  |
| **4** | 2/8/2023 | Wednesday | Sensation and Perception | Chapter 4 |  |
| **4** | 2/10/2023 | Friday | **No class- Study day!** |  | **EXAM 1 Open: @ 12PM**  **EXAM 1 Due: 2/12/2023 @ 11:59PM**  HW 2 (Ch. 3 + 4) Due: 2/12/2023 @ 11:59pm |
| **5** | 2/13/2023 | Monday | Consciousness | Chapter 5 |  |
| **5** | 2/15/2023 | Wednesday | Consciousness | Chapter 5 |  |
| **5** | 2/17/2023 | Friday | Learning/Memory/Intelligence | Chapter 6/7/8 |  |
| **6** | 2/20/2023 | Monday | Learning/Memory/Intelligence | Chapter 6/7/8 | HW 3 (Ch. 5 + 6) Due at 11:59pm |
| **6** | 2/22/2023 | Wednesday | Learning/Memory/Intelligence | Chapter 6/7/8 |  |
| **6** | 2/24/2023 | Friday | Learning/Memory/Intelligence | Chapter 6/7/8 |  |
| **7** | 2/27/2023 | Monday | Learning/Memory/Intelligence | Chapter 6/7/8 |  |
| **7** | 3/1/2023 | Wednesday | Learning/Memory/Intelligence | Chapter 6/7/8 |  |
| **7** | 3/3/2023 | Friday | **No class- Study day!** |  | **EXAM 2 Open: @ 12PM**  **EXAM 2 Due: 3/5/2023 @ 11:59PM**  HW 4 (Ch. 7 + 8) Due: 3/5/2023 @ 11:59pm |
| **8** | 3/6/2023 | Monday | Development | Chapter 9 |  |
| **8** | 3/8/2023 | Wednesday | Development | Chapter 9 |  |
| **8** | 3/10/2023 | Friday | Motivation & Emotion | Chapter 10 |  |
| **9** | 3/13-17/2023 | Monday-Friday | **Spring vacation- No class!** | | |
| **10** | 3/20/2023 | Monday | Motivation & Emotion | Chapter 10 |  |
| **10** | 3/22/2023 | Wednesday | Personality | Chapter 12 | HW 5 (Ch. 9 + 10) Due at 11:59pm |
| **10** | 3/24/2023 | Friday | Personality | Chapter 12 |  |
| **11** | 3/27/2023 | Monday | Social | Chapter 13 |  |
| **11** | 3/29/2023 | Wednesday | Social | Chapter 13 |  |
| **11** | 3/31/2023  **LAST DAY TO DROP** | Friday | **No class- Study day!** |  | **EXAM 3 Open: @ 12PM**  **EXAM 3 Due: 4/2/2023 @ 11:59PM**  HW 6 (Ch. 12 + 13) Due: 4/2/2023 @ 11:59pm |
| **12** | 4/3/2023 | Monday | I/O Psych | Chapter 14 |  |
| **12** | 4/5/2023 | Wednesday | I/O Psych | Chapter 14 |  |
| **12** | 4/7/2023 | Friday | Health Psych | Chapter 17 |  |
| **13** | 4/10/2023 | Monday | Health Psych/Psychological Disorders | Chapter 17/15 |  |
| **13** | 4/12/2023 | Wednesday | Psychological Disorders | Chapter 15 | HW 7 (Ch. 14 + 17) Due at 11:59pm |
| **13** | 4/14/2023 | Friday | Psychological Disorders | Chapter 15 |  |
| **14** | 4/17/2023 | Monday | Therapies | Chapter 16 |  |
| **14** | 4/19/2023 | Wednesday | Therapies | Chapter 16 |  |
| **14** | 4/21/2023 | Friday | **No class- Study day!** |  | **EXAM 4 Open: @ 12PM**  **EXAM 4 Due: 4/23/2023 @ 11:59PM**  HW 8 (Ch. 15 + 16) Due: 4/23/2023 @11:59pm |
| **16** | 5/1/2023 | Monday | **Optional Course Project Due @ 11:59PM** | | |

## 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 Monday/Wednesday/Friday 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.