

Psy 1315 003: Intro to Psy

Spring 2024

Instructor Information

Instructor

Derek Man

Office Hours

LS 411

Thursdays after class, or by request

Email Address

Djm8434@mavs.uta.edu

Faculty Profile

Derek (<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Derek-Mangino-Sirvent>)

Course Technicalities

Time and Place of Class Meetings

Tue & Thru 9:30 - 10:50 Am Location has not been decided, TBA.

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 some of the 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. The following areas

- **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.

- **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**.
- **Note that the instructor has no control or supervision of this requirement.** All questions pertaining to this assignment can be sent to psycpool@uta.edu. Furthermore, points are **not** added to the course grade for completion of the research participation requirements.

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."

Required Course Materials

1. **Google Forms:** You will need to be able to access it in class (via computer or cellphone) to answer the Participation questions
2. **Lockdown browser:** All exams will be done online using Lockdown browser and Responds. You will need a camera for this. Accommodations may be granted to those that are not capable of operating such devices.
3. **Canvas:** will be an important component of the course throughout the semester. Grades 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/>.
4. **Link to required text book** [Watch to link your Canvas account to McGraw](#)
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. **Please use your UTA email address when you register for Connect. This registration will not be available until the course start date.**

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations

Grading scale

Task	#	pts each	Totals
Participation	28	10	280
SmartBook	17	30	510
Exams	4	100	400
Ch 17 test	1	20	20
Core	1	70	70

- **Participation:** Each class will begin and end with two questions. The first two questions will assess your preparation for the class content and will be available from 9:30 to 9:33 Am. Be sure to be in class on time to receive credit. The last two questions will assess your comprehension of the content covered and will be available from 10:45 to 10:50 Am. While the questions will be presented in class, all responses will be submitted in Google Forms.
- **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; answering incorrectly will mean that you will need to spend more time in the assignment. Each chapter takes an average of 1.5 hours to complete. All chapters of each unit are due on the same day (Thursday in which the exam for the respective unit becomes available).
- **Exams:** These will be done online asynchronous using **Lockdown Browser Respondus**. If you do not have a system that can use this software, or a proper location to take test, I can recommend you resources, or alternatively, you may take your exam during my office hours.
- Exams Consist of 50 multiple choice questions. All exams will be cumulative (meaning that questions may include content from previous units). 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 to complete. Make sure you have enough time to complete the exam and that you will not have technical issues that interfere. Note, Final exam = unit 4 exam
- **Ch 17 Test:** In an attempt to prevent difficulties during the Exams, and to warm you up to the procedure and style, the first test/exam will only cover ch 17 (The first class), will only be worth 20 points, and will only have 20 questions, which you must complete within 20 minutes. Like exams, this will be done online asynchronous using **Lockdown Browser Respondus**.
- **Core:** This is a Curriculum Quiz enforced by the university which assesses your general common sense. It will be 43 institution-selected questions, you will take it online by the end of the semester, and have 180 minutes to complete.
- **Writings: (Extra-Credit)** Throughout the semester, you will be learning about the people and societies that surround you. This extra-credit assignment offers you the opportunity to put into practice the concepts covered in the classroom. Each Thursday a unit exam opens, you may submit a writing assignment for extra credit. The writing assignment should consist of 3 entries. For each entry, define, in your words, the concept that you are focusing on in that entry (should be a concept that you learned about in one of the chapters of the unit), and explain where you saw it in your life or how you applied it in your life. Be detailed, give extra examples, if needed. To receive credit, each entry should be at least a paragraph and be about a different concept.

Percentages	Letter Grade
900-1000	A
800-890	B
700-790	C
600-690	D
0-590	F

Class Policies & Rules

1. Communications with me should happen in-person (During office hours, before or after class). I will respond to your emails **only if** you spoke with me beforehand about the matter, unless it is an unexpected urgent matter.
2. Punctuality: Again, Participation questions will be available from 9:30 to 9:33 Am. Be sure to be present in class on time to answer the questions.
3. 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.
 - **Absence:** No excused absences, regardless of the situation; if the anesthesiologist does not show up to the surgery room the patient will die, even if the reason for her absence was that her dog died, and her tire was flat, and her WiFi was not working. Welcome to the real world
 - No Make-up **Exams:** If you are cursed with bad luck and tend to have issues on the times of exams, then you need learn to arm yourself with the necessary tools and practices to overcome your bad-luck condition; begging for others' help is not a proper solution.

Course Schedule

Jan 16 – 30 April (28 days)

Guest Speaker on 28 March

Chapter 17 – Health Psychology

Test 18 Jan.

Unit 1: Chapters 1 – 5

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: 15 Feb

Unit 2: Chapters 6 – 9

Chapter 6 – Learning

Chapter 7 – Memory
Chapter 8 – Thinking, Intelligence, and Language
Chapter 9 – Human Development

Exam: 7 March

UNIT 3: Chapters 10 – 13

Chapter 13 – Social Psychology
Chapter 11 – Gender, Sex, and Sexuality
Chapter 10 – Motivation & Emotion
Chapter 12 – Personality

Exam: 11 April

UNIT 4: Chapters 14 – 16

Chapter 14 – Industrial & Organizational
Chapter 15 – Psychological Disorders
Chapter 16 – Therapies

Core 25 April

Exam: Thursday, May 2 at 11 – 1:30 p.m. ([Exam Schedules](#))

The instructor for this course reserves the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course.

General 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

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](#)

▲ 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.

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 decision 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) (<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 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 (4uLIBR)

▲ 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.

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](https://library.uta.edu/hours) (<https://library.uta.edu/hours>) of operation.

Librarian to Contact

▲ Each academic unit has access to [Librarians by Academic Subject](http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php) (<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 not 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

- [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/)

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