

# PSYC 1315-006: Intro to Psychology

Spring 2024

## Instructor Information

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Instructor  
Ashley Hall, M.S.

**Office Number**  
Life Science 425

**Email Address**  
[ashley.hall@uta.edu](mailto:ashley.hall@uta.edu)  
*Please send all messages through Canvas.*

**Faculty Profile**  
Will be provided at a later date.

**Office Hours**  
Tuesday 12:30 – 1:30 PM  
By appointment (optional in-person or online through Microsoft Teams)

## Course Information

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**Section Information**  
PSYC 1315-006

**Time and Place of Class Meetings**  
Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00 – 3:20 PM, Location TBA

### 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**

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.

### **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 day of the corresponding module exam at 8:00 A.M..

**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](mailto: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 spring vacation.

## Grading Information

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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**

### 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%)

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.

### 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](#)). 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.

### **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 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 two weeks 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.**

### **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

### **Grade Grievances**

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.

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](#).

### **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>). Under no circumstances will academic dishonesty be tolerated.**

### **Course Schedule**

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*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*

<b>Tues, 1/16</b>	<b>First Day of Class, Syllabus, and Getting to Know You Exercise</b>
Thurs, 1/18	Chapter One Lecture in Class
Tues, 1/23	Chapter Two Lecture in Class
Thurs, 1/25	Chapter Three Lecture in Class
Tues, 1/30	Chapter Four Lecture in Class
Thurs, 2/1	<b>NO CLASS – Work on Study Guides for Module One</b>
<b>Tues, 2/6</b>	<b>NO CLASS - STUDY GUIDES DUE BY 8:00 A.M. MODULE ONE EXAM DUE BY 11:59 P.M.</b>
Thurs, 2/8	Chapter Five Lecture in Class
Tues, 2/13	Chapter Six Lecture in Class
Thurs, 2/15	Chapter Seven Lecture in Class
Tues, 2/20	Chapter Seven Lecture in Class
Thurs, 2/22	Chapter Eight Lecture in Class

Tues, 2/27	Chapter Eight Lecture in Class
<b>Thurs, 2/29</b>	<b>NO CLASS – STUDY GUIDES DUE BY 8:00 A.M. MODULE TWO EXAM DUE BY 11:59 P.M.</b>
Tues, 3/5	Chapter Nine Lecture in Class
Thurs, 3/7	Chapter Eleven Lecture in Class
<b>3/11-3/15</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES</b>
Tues, 3/19	Chapter Twelve Lecture in Class
Thurs, 3/21	Chapter Thirteen Lecture in Class
<b>Tues, 3/26</b>	Chapter Thirteen Lecture in Class
Thurs, 3/28	<b>NO CLASS – STUDY GUIDES DUE BY 8:00 A.M. MODULE THREE EXAM DUE BY 11:59 P.M.</b>
<b>Fri, 3/29</b>	<b>LAST DAY TO DROP CLASSES</b>
Tues, 4/2	Chapter Ten Lecture in Class
Thurs, 4/4	Chapter Fourteen Lecture in Class
Tues, 4/9	Chapter Fifteen Lecture in Class
Thurs, 4/11	Chapter Sixteen Lecture in Class
Tues, 4/16	Chapter Sixteen Lecture in Class
Thurs, 4/18	Chapter Seventeen Lecture in Class
Tues, 4/23	Chapter Seventeen Lecture in Class
<b>Thurs, 4/25</b>	<b>NO CLASS – STUDY GUIDES DUE BY 8:00 A.M. MODULE FOUR EXAM DUE BY 11:59 P.M.</b>
<b>Tues, 4/30</b>	<b>CORE CURRICULUM QUIZ DUE by 11:59 p.m. EXTRA-CREDIT DUE by 11:59 p.m.</b>

### **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**

*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.*

#### **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 Tuesday/Thursday course holds 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, **which will be discussed on the first day of class once the classroom has been assigned**. 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.

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](https://www.uta.edu/uta/emergency.php) (<https://www.uta.edu/uta/emergency.php>).

### **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/>) (2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.uta.edu/owl) (<http://www.uta.edu/owl>) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

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.

### **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**

### **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/)