

PSYC 6300-001: Seminar (Cyberpsychology)

Summer 1 2023 (June 5 – July 7)

Instructor Information

Instructor(s)

Amandeep S. Dhaliwal, Ph.D.

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Life Science 519

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Faculty Profile

<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/science/departments/psychology/faculty>

Office Hours

Monday 11:00 am – 1:00 pm; Tuesday 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Course Information

Section Information

PSYC-4359-001

Time and Place of Class Meetings

MWTh 8am – 10:00am

Location: LS101, still check MyMav before the first day of class.

Description of Course Content

Advent of internet has both enhanced and abated the human experience in ways that was unimaginable 2-3 decades ago. Cyberpsychology is a branch of psychology that studies the way people interact with technology and how technological tools effect the way people feel, think, and behave both online and offline.

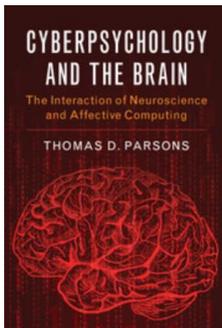
Psychological factors such as perception, learning, motivation, and belief systems are prone to manipulation, made easier with advent of the internet. Course topics include persuasion research, associative learning, consumer behavior, emotional and motivational strategies, social media, mental health, personality profiles, cybersecurity, social engineering, and political activism. Cyber psychology course is designed to introduce psychological vulnerabilities to technologically savy students with hopes of aspiring them to invent technologies that improve the quality of life.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze and discuss the areas of psychological research that show human vulnerability to influences by messages delivered through various online media.
2. Demonstrate a general understanding of the techniques used to harvest, store, analyze and sell personal data.
3. Analyze the health and ethics related to exploitation by corporations of consumer.
4. Demonstrate understanding of the economical models commonly used by internet providers.
5. Discuss the political rationale and psychological research aimed at influencing policies through various internet-based manipulation.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials

Parsons, T. (2017). *Cyberpsychology and the Brain: The Interaction of Neuroscience and Affective Computing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi:10.1017/9781316151204



Plus each student will receive a draft textbook free of charge. The textbook is under revision, as new research is integrated. Peer-reviewed articles relevant for each topic to be covered in the course. The order, content, and assignments presented below are subject to change.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations

1. Students will write a brief reflection of the content covered during the week. Reflection should demonstrate thorough understanding of the topics covered including citations from peer-reviewed articles. Reflection should be between 500-700 words, font size 12, single or double spaced.
2. Two multiple choice exams.

Technology Requirements

Electronic devices (phone, laptop, tablet) will be heavily used in the seminar. Must be able to access Canvas.

Grading Information

Grading

Weekly Reflection:	5 x 10 pts = 50 pts
Exams:	2 x 50 pts = 100 pts
Attendance:	5 x 10 pts = 50 pts

Total: 200 pts

A = 90 – 100%, B = 80 – 89%, C = 70 – 79%, D = 60 – 69%, F = 59% and below

Grade Grievances

Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances at <https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/science/departments/psychology/degree-programs/graduate/graduate-resources/student-grievance-form>

As instructor of this course, I reserve the right to change topics and due dates as deemed necessary to optimize the learning experience.

Course Schedule

Date	Weekday	Topic	Tasks
5-Jun	Mon	Evolutionary adaptations in the digital world	Read: Chap 3, 4, 5 (Abadzi Draft book)
6-Jun	Tue	Internet Economics & e-commerce	Read: Chap 2, 13 (Abadzi Draft book)
7-Jun	Wed	Cognitive biases and Motivation in digital environment	Read: Chap 10, 11 (Abadzi Draft book)
8-Jun	Thu	Emotion and Ethics in the digital environment	Read: Chap 9, 17 (Abadzi Draft book); weekly ref 1
12-Jun	Mon	Applied persuasion strategies	Read: Chap 12 (Abadzi Draft book)
13-Jun	Tue	Online persona and offline interactions	Read: Chap 14 (Abadzi Draft book)
14-Jun	Wed	Policy priming- political psychology and opinion change	Read: Chap 15 (Abadzi Draft book)
15-Jun	Thu	Exam Review	Study; weekly ref 2
19-Jun	Mon	Juneteenth Holiday	study
20-Jun	Tue	Review plus MIDTERM EXAM	rest
21-Jun	Wed	Cyberpsychology and the Brain (Info session)	Read: Chap 4 (Parsons, 2017)
22-Jun	Thu	Brain on the internet	Read: Chap 5,6 (Parsons, 2017); weekly ref 3
26-Jun	Mon	Socially networked brain and Multitaskers	Read: Chap 7 (Parsons, 2017)
27-Jun	Tue	Cyberaddictions	Read: Chap 11 (Parsons, 2017)
28-Jun	Wed	Clinical neuroscience: Novel tech for assessment & treatment	Read: Chap 13 (Parsons, 2017)
29-Jun	Thu	Cyberpsychology of Videogames	Read: Chap 14 (Parsons, 2017); weekly ref 4
3-Jul	Mon	NeuroIS: Cybersecurity and the Brain	Read: Chap 18 (Abadzi Draft book)
4-Jul	Tue	Research Synthesis and trends	Read: Chap 18 (Abadzi Draft book)
5-Jul	Wed	Research Synthesis and trends	study
6-Jul	Thu	Final Review	Study; weekly ref 5
7-Jul	Friday	Final Exam	done!

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, class attendance is mandatory unless a prior engagement is established. Attendance will be taken randomly throughout the semester and only students in attendance will receive the points. The U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to verify Federal Student Aid recipients' attendance in courses. UT Arlington instructors should be prepared to report the last date of attendance as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty must report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence of academic engagement 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.

Distance education courses require regular and substantive online interaction and participation. Students must participate in online course activities to demonstrate attendance; logging into an online class is not sufficient by itself to demonstrate attendance

Lab Safety Training

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](#).

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/)

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