

Course Syllabus

PSY 1300 Introduction to Psychology

Course Description

A survey of the major principles derived from research on human and animal behavior. Topics studied include learning, thinking, motivation, emotion, personality, the senses, perception, and the form and functions of the nervous system.

Communication Policy

Instructor: Dr. Natalie Ceballos

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Even though this is a correspondence course, you are encouraged to contact your instructor if you have any concerns, questions, or problems. Any email received between Monday morning and Friday at noon will receive a reply within 48 hours, except during holiday breaks or announced away times. Emails received between Friday at noon and Sunday night will receive a reply within 48 hours of the next business day. To ensure timely delivery of all e-mails related to this course, you must use your official Texas State Bobcat Mail student account.

How to Succeed in this Course

1. Pace yourself in the course, giving yourself plenty of time to complete each module.
2. Complete the reading assignment(s) for the module, and then view the e-lecture or other audio-visual material in the module to reinforce key concepts.
3. Take the self-assessment quizzes and/or complete the scavenger hunt assignments to test how much you focused on and learned from the lesson. Then, go back and review any material that you may not have mastered in your first pass.
4. Complete the reflection essay assignments for each module to gain a deeper understanding of how the key concepts apply to real life.
5. For the last module, choose one of your reflection essays and expand it into a short paper in APA format.
6. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact your instructor.

Course Goals

General Education Core Curriculum (Code 080), Social & Behavioral Science Component Outcomes: Students will explore behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

Course Objectives

Core Objectives/Competencies Outcomes:


- Critical Thinking: Students will demonstrate creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- Communication: Students will effectively develop, interpret and express ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills: Students will manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- Social Responsibility: Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Course Organization

You have **six months** (approximately 24 weeks) to complete the course. You will be reading and learning information from 11 chapters, taking quizzes and/or completing scavenger hunt assignments, and writing reflection essays relating to 1-2 chapters per module. In addition, for your last assignment you will expand one of your reflection essays into a six-page paper in APA format.

Here is a suggested schedule for how to budget your time:

- Week 1: Familiarize yourself with the syllabus and introductory materials.
- Weeks 2 and 3: Read the assigned chapter and view the online course content for Module 1. Complete the online quizzes and reflection essay.
- Weeks 4 and 5: Read the assigned chapter and view the online course content for Module 2. Complete the online quizzes and reflection essay.
- Weeks 6 and 7: Read the assigned chapter and view the online course content for Module 3. Complete the online quiz, scavenger hunt, and reflection essay.
- Weeks 8, 9, and 10: Read the assigned chapters and view the online course content for Module 4. Complete the online quizzes and reflection essay.
- Weeks 11 and 12: Read the assigned chapter and view the online course content for Module 5. Complete the online quizzes and reflection essay.
- Weeks 13 and 14: Read the assigned chapter and view the online course content for Module 6. Complete the scavenger hunt, online quiz, and reflection essay.
- Weeks 15 and 16: Read the assigned chapter and view the online course content for Module 7. Complete the online quizzes and reflection essay.
- Weeks 17, 18, and 19: Read the assigned chapter and view the online course content for Module 8. Complete the online quizzes and reflection essay.
- Weeks 20, 21, and 22: Read the assigned chapters and view the online course content for Module 9. Complete the online quizzes and reflection essay.
- Weeks 23 and 24: View the online course content for Module 10, complete the online quiz, and expand one of your reflection essays into a six-page paper in APA format.

Be sure to fill out the [Course Pacing Guide](#)  and submit it within 7 days of enrollment. *You may complete no more than two lessons per week.*

Course Materials

The required textbook for this course will be Ciccarelli, S.K. & White, J.N. (2017). *Psychology, Fifth Edition*. New York, Pearson (Paperback ISBN 978-013447961; e-book ISBN 978-0134677798). This textbook is available through the University Bookstore. *Note:* On the Bookstore website, select "ODEL" as the Department.

Grading

Activity	Points
• Self-Assessment Quizzes	85 points (17 quizzes worth 5 points each)
• Scavenger Hunt Assignments	10 points (2 scavenger hunts worth 5 points each)
• Reflection Essay Assignments	90 points (9 reflection essays worth 10 points each)
• Final Paper	15 points (1 paper worth 15 points)

Total: 200 points

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

- 160 – 200 points = A
- 120 – 159 points = B
- 80 – 199 points = C
- 40 – 79 points = D
- 0 – 39 points = F

You must submit all assignments and make a 60 percent or better on the final paper in order to pass the course.

Quizzes, Assignments, and Final Paper

- Quizzes: Each Module will include one to two self-assessment quizzes. You will be allowed to complete each quiz up to three times, and your highest score will be recorded. These quizzes are not timed. Each quiz will be worth five points.
- Assignments: There are two types of assignments in this course: scavenger hunts and reflection papers. There will be two scavenger hunt assignments that will require you to collect examples of psychological concepts and submit them in a single document. Each Scavenger Hunt Assignment will be worth five points. In addition, there will be nine reflection essay assignments, and each will be worth 10 points. The reflection essay assignments will contain writing prompts or questions that will require you to explore in more depth what you have learned in the module.

- Final Paper: In the last module of the course, you will learn how to write in APA format, and as your final assignment, you will expand one of your reflection essays into a six-page paper.