

# **Course Syllabus**

**PSYC 1301.060 & .062 Introduction to Psychology**

**Fall 2021**

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As an adjunct I do not have an office on campus, so I make every effort to be highly accessible to my students via email. I will respond within 24 hours M-F. If you have not heard from me within that time frame, please resend your email.

## **Course Catalog Description**

A survey of empirically based knowledge of behavior and mentation of individuals

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Critical Thinking Skills (includes creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information). Students will be able to apply their critical thinking skills throughout this class in utilizing video lessons, adaptive assessments, and project-based learning.
2. Communication Skills (includes effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. Students will be able to apply their communication skills through expression of ideas from psychology during project-based learning assignments.
3. Empirical and Quantitative Skills (includes the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts and results in informed conclusions). Students will be able to apply empirical quantitative skills that illustrate an understanding of the techniques and methods of psychology.
4. Social Responsibility (includes intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities) Although psychology is the study of individual characteristics, students are exposed to topics such as social psychology, in which interactions between people becomes the focus, including race relations and prejudice. Individual difference is explored in relation to both "nature and nurture," the latter including contextual differences such as culture. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the factors which affect human interactions and relationships.

## **Required Text, Materials, and Supplies**

A student at UT-Tyler is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Your textbook is an eBook. You must have access to the eBook through WileyPlus in order to complete assignments. Make sure you have purchased the access code by the first day of class. In case you have any difficulties getting access to your eBook including waiting for financial aid, you can start a free 2-week trial so that you won't get behind.

*At the end of the 2-week trial you must be prepared to pay for the text.*

### **Real World Psychology, 3e**

**Sanderson, C.A., & Huffman, K. (2019).  
Real World Psychology (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition).  
Wiley Global Education US.  
ISBN: 9781119613558**

**In addition to the eBook,  
you are also required to have access to a working  
computer with a Canvas and WileyPlus  
compatible Internet browser,  
ability to take pictures and  
make short video recordings with audio  
and upload them to Canvas,  
and reliable Internet connection for this course.  
*Minimal supplies will also be required in  
order to complete assigned projects.***

Computer problems, Internet connectivity problems, etc. will not be substantial reasons for making up assignments. If you have issues with Canvas or WileyPlus, you should contact the appropriate IT support, not your instructor, for help with the problem. If you have documentation from IT that the problems you encountered were related to Canvas or WileyPlus, you may email that to me and we will discuss how you can make up your assignment. **Again, note, that computer and Internet problems not related to Canvas or WileyPlus and documented by their respective IT departments will not be reasons for extended time or reassessment of your assignments.**

## **Evaluation and Grading**

Below you will find the specific category and the weight of that category.

- Adaptive Assignments (40%)
- Chapter PBLs (55%)
- Final Exam (5%)

Please note that grades are weighted by category. ***While I seek to always have Canvas reflect your current grade as reliably as possible, it cannot completely accurately calculate your grade; do not rely on it solely.*** At any point during the semester, you can do some simple math to figure out what your current grade is. Please see the example below:

### **Example Grade Calculation**

Student R has an Adaptive Assignment average of 90, a Chapter Project average of 88, and estimates they will make a Final Exam Grade of 80 (since the final is done at the end of the semester you will have to estimate here).

Multiply your averages by the weights above then add each product for your final grade.

- Adaptive Assignment Average:  $90 \times .40 = 36$
- Chapter Project Average:  $88 \times .55 = 48.4$
- Final Exam Grade Estimate:  $80 \times .05 = 4$

$$36 + 48.4 + 4 = 88.4$$

FINAL GRADE: 88.4%, B

To calculate extra credit: add the number of points you've earned and divide by the number possible. Then multiply by 5. Add this number to calculations above.

Example: Student R earned 1,000 of 1,000 possible extra credit points.

$$1,000 / 1,000 = 1 \quad 1 \times 5 = 5$$

$$36 + 48.4 + 4 + 5 = 93.4$$

FINAL GRADE WITH EXTRA CREDIT: 93.4%, A

***\*\*\*Note that if Student R fails to fully complete the Research Requirement in the course, their final grade becomes 83.4%, B. More information about the Research Requirement is located below and within the Canvas course. \*\*\****

## **Teaching Strategies**

Please make sure you have logged into Canvas and reviewed the informational messages explaining the workings of this course. The course is organized into modules with your assignments for each week of the semester. **I will make course announcements weekly** to help you keep track of what assignments are due and inform you of any important updates within the course. You can also use the **Course Calendar** feature in Canvas to keep up with your assignments in addition to this syllabus.

The course is structured such that you will work through reading and informational videos for each chapter, followed by an **Adaptive Assignment**. The Adaptive Assignment is an opportunity for you to assess your learning of the material through questions. Concepts over which you demonstrate mastery quickly will be completed, and the assignment will offer you more questions over content which you haven't learned as well. Therefore, the length of these assignments will vary based upon your understanding of the material and are designed to ensure that you do not have gaps in learning. If you prefer to use the adaptive assignments as your way of studying and learning the material, you are welcome to; just remember that they count toward your grade in the course.

**Adaptive Assignments**  
will be open for you to complete  
any time from **12:00am Monday through 11:59pm Sunday**  
of the week that they are assigned. **Because you have a**  
**full week to complete them, no late submissions will be accepted.**

After the week of studying the chapter and completing the Adaptive Assignment, you will have a short **Chapter Project Based Learning (PBL)** designed to help you integrate the information in various ways. You'll post your projects within discussion board groups with classmates. Grades on these projects will be based on the depth of your demonstrated knowledge of the topic as you complete your project as well as your engagement with classmates, in accordance with the posted rubric.

**Your Initial Post (IP) for the**  
**Chapter Project Based Learning (PBL)**  
**assignment must be made**  
**between 12:00am Monday and 11:59pm Wednesday**  
**of the week that they are assigned.**  
**Your follow-up posts must be made**  
**after your IP and before 11:59pm Friday**  
**of the week that they are assigned.**  
**Because you have a full week to complete them,**  
**no late submissions will be accepted.**

The **Final Exam** in this course is a critical thinking essay question. If you have completed all of the adaptive assignments and practiced thinking critically while synthesizing information from the chapters in the projects, *there is nothing else for you to study or prepare for the final exam.* Typically, it takes

students 20-30 minutes to complete and is **NOT** an optional final exam, no matter what your course average is going in to the final. You may take the final exam any time during the 24-hour window that it's open.

**If you do not take the final exam, you will earn an Incomplete in the course until you do so. If you do not complete it within the guidelines of the University following earning an Incomplete grade in the course, the Incomplete will become an F.**

**Your Final Exam will be administered from 12:00am-11:59pm on Monday, December 6, 2021**

**If you have 2 other final exams scheduled for this day such that the final for this course would make a 3<sup>rd</sup> exam on Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, email me on or before Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> in order to arrange to take your exam at a different time.**

### **Course Policies Regarding Missed Assignments**

If you miss an assignment for an excused reason (doctor's documented illness, death/funeral, evacuation for natural disaster, University related activity, or religious observance), I may permit you to retake the assignment. *You will be required to provide an acceptable form of documentation for missing the scheduled test before missing the assignment unless it is related to illness or emergency.* That documentation must be submitted via email within 48 hours of missing the assignment. Email to [abraswell@uttyler.edu](mailto:abraswell@uttyler.edu).

If you miss an assignment for an unexcused reason, note that I provide a substantial amount of extra credit for this purpose. Though I work hard to have this course organized in such a way that you do not miss any assignments, I know that life happens. When you earn your college degree, it will not show the world how smart you are. It will the show the world that you are dedicated, have good time management skills, and can persevere when things get hard. Do the extra credit and don't give up!

## **Outline of Assignments by Week**

### Monday, August 23-Sunday, August 29

- Complete Course Introduction Module
- Review Instructions: Research Requirement
- Review Extra Credit Opportunities
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 1 (1.1 and 1.4 ONLY)
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 2
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 2 PBL
- Week 1 Extra Credit Self Care

### Monday, August 30- Sunday, September 5

- PBL Chapter 2- Neuroscience & Biological Foundations
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 3
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 3 PBL
- Week 2 Extra Credit Self Care

### Monday, September 6- Sunday, September 12

- PBL Chapter 3- Stress, Coping, and Health Psychology
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 4
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 4 PBL
- Week 3 Extra Credit Self Care

### Monday, September 13- Sunday September 19

- PBL Chapter 4- Sensation & Perception
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 5
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 5 PBL
- Week 4 Extra Credit Self Care

### Monday, September 20- Sunday, September 26

- PBL Chapter 5- States of Consciousness
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 6
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 6 PBL
- Week 5 Extra Credit Self Care

### Monday, September 27- Sunday, October 3

- PBL chapter 6- Learning
- Complete Research Requirement Module including its Adaptive Assignment (Ch. 1- 1.2 & 1.3)
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 7
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 7 PBL
- Week 6 Extra Credit Self Care
- Extra Credit Voter Registration

Monday, October 4- Sunday, October 10

- PBL Chapter 7- Memory
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 8
- Research Requirement Deadline #1
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 8 PBL
- Week 7 Extra Credit Self Care

Monday, October 11- Sunday, October 17

- PBL Chapter 8- Thinking, Language, and Intelligence
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 9
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 9 PBL
- Week 8 Extra Credit Self Care

Monday, October 18- Sunday, October 24

- PBL Chapter 9- Life Span Development
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 10
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 10 PBL
- Week 9 Extra Credit Self Care

Monday, October 25- Sunday, October 31

- PBL Chapter 10- Sex, Gender, and Sexuality
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 11
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 11 PBL
- Week 10 Extra Credit Self Care

Monday, November 1- Sunday, November 7

- PBL Chapter 11- Motivation and Emotion
- Extra Credit, "I Voted!"
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 12
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 12 PBL
- Week 11 Extra Credit Self Care

Monday, November 8- Sunday, November 14

- PBL chapter 12- Personality
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 13
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 13 PBL
- Week 12 Extra Credit Self Care

Monday, November 15- Sunday, November 21

- PBL Chapter 13- Psychological Disorders
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 15
- A Look Ahead: Review instructions for your Chapter 15 PBL
- Week 13 Extra Credit Self Care

Monday, November 22- Sunday, November 28

*Thanksgiving Break- all assignments are optional and for extra credit*

- Extra Credit Reflection
- Adaptive Assignment Chapter 14
- Week 14 Extra Credit Self Care

Monday, November 29- Sunday, December 5

- PBL chapter 15- Social Psychology
- Research Requirement Deadline #2
- Week 15 Extra Credit Self Care
- Extra Credit UTT End of Course Evaluation

Monday, December 6 12:00am-11:59pm

- Final Exam

## **UT-Tyler Department of Psychology and Counseling Research Requirement**

**The Research Requirement is for Credit or No Credit**

**This is a required (not optional) project**

you must complete in this course set by the Department of Psychology.

*If you fail to complete the research requirement, your grade will be **dropped** an automatic letter grade.*

**I encourage you to begin this immediately**

so you will not have any problem completing it.

*Problems **always** arise for students who wait until the last minute.*

The Department of Psychology and Counseling requires that all students taking 1000- and 2000-level psychology courses to complete a research requirement. Research Methods and Statistics are exempt from this policy. However, these two courses and certain 3000- and 4000-level courses also may include some type of research experience as either a course requirement or as extra credit.

There are two ways to fulfill the research requirement:

**Option #1:** Participate in departmental research through the Sona System

**Option #2:** Write a 10-page paper in full APA style

Extensive information about completing the research requirement is located within the course on Canvas.

**Timeline:**

**Research Requirement Deadline #1:2/7**

**Research Requirement Deadline #2: 4/11**



## **Student Resources**

Resources to assist you in this course

- [UT Tyler Student Accessibility and Resource \(SAR\) Office](#) (Links to an external site.) (provides needed accommodations to students with document needs related to access and learning)
- [UT Tyler Writing Center](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [The Mathematics Learning Center](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [UT Tyler PASS Tutoring Center](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [UT Tyler Supplemental Instruction](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [Upswing \(24/7 online tutoring\) - covers nearly all undergraduate course areas](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [Robert Muntz Library](#) (Links to an external site.) and [Library Liaison](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [Canvas 101](#) (Links to an external site.) (learn to use Canvas, proctoring, Unicheck, and other software)
- Digital Support Toolkit (for supported courses only. Students are automatically enrolled in the toolkit for supported courses)
- LIB 422 -- Computer Lab where students can take a proctored exam
- [The Career Success Center](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [UT Tyler Testing Center](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [Office of Research & Scholarship Design and Data Analysis Lab](#) (Links to an external site.)

Resources available to UT Tyler Students

- [UT Tyler Counseling Center](#) (Links to an external site.) (available to all students)
- [TAO Online Support Center](#) (Links to an external site.) (online self-help modules related to mental & emotional health)
- [Military and Veterans Success Center](#) (Links to an external site.) (supports for all of our military affiliated students)
- [UT Tyler Patriot Food Pantry](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [UT Tyler Financial Aid and Scholarships](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [UT Tyler Registrar's Office](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [Office of International Programs](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [Title IX Reporting](#) (Links to an external site.)
- [Patriots Engage](#) (Links to an external site.) (available to all students. Get engaged at UT Tyler.)

## **University Policies**

**Withdrawing from Class** - Students you are allowed to withdraw (Links to an external site.) (drop) from this course through the University's Withdrawal Portal (Links to an external site.). Texas law prohibits students who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Make sure to consider the impact withdrawing from this class has on your academic progress as well as the financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and financial aid for additional guidance. CAUTION #1: Withdrawing before census day does not mean you get a full refund. Please see the Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule (Links to an external site.). CAUTION #2: All international students must check with the Office of International Programs (Links to an external site.) before withdrawing. All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms.

**Final Exam Policy:** Final examinations are administered as scheduled. If unusual circumstances require that special arrangements be made for an individual student or class, the dean of the appropriate college, after consultation with the faculty member involved, may authorize an exception to the schedule. Faculty members are required to maintain student final examination papers for a minimum of three months following the examination date.

**Incomplete Grade Policy:** If a student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to complete all of the requirements for a course by the end of the semester, then the instructor may recommend an Incomplete (I) for the course. The "I" may be assigned in lieu of a grade only when all of the following conditions are met: (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all course work or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor; and (c) the student presents these reasons prior to the time that the final grade roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average for a student.

The student and the instructor must submit an Incomplete Form detailing the work required and the time by which the work must be completed to their respective department chair or college dean for approval. The time limit established must not exceed one year. Should the student fail to complete all of the work for the course within the time limit, then the instructor may assign zeros to the unfinished work, compute the course average for the student, and assign the appropriate grade. If a grade has not been assigned within one year, then the Incomplete will be changed to an F, or to NC if the course was originally taken under the CR/NC grading basis.

**Grade Appeal Policy:** UT Tyler's Grade Appeal policy requires the completion of a Grade Appeal form for this action to take place. The grade appeal begins with the instructor of your course. If you do not agree with the decision of the instructor, you may then move your appeal to the department chair/school director for that course. If you are still dissatisfied with the decision of the chair/director, you may move the appeal to the Dean of the College offering that course who has the final decision. Grade appeals must be initiated within sixty (60) days from the date of receiving the final course grade. The Grade Appeal form is found on the Registrar's Form Library. (Links to an external site.)

**Disability/Accessibility Services:** The University of Texas at Tyler has a continuing commitment to providing reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Students with disabilities who may need accommodation(s) in order to fully participate in this class are urged to

contact the Student Accessibility and Resources Office (SAR) as soon as possible to explore what arrangements need to be made to ensure access. If you have a disability, you are encouraged to visit the [SAR Portal \(Links to an external site.\)](https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler/) (<https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler/> ([Links to an external site.](#))) and complete the New Student Application. For more information, please visit the [SAR webpage \(Links to an external site.\)](#) or call 903.566.7079.

**Military Affiliated Students:** UT Tyler honors the service and sacrifices of our military affiliated students. If you are a student who is a veteran, on active duty, in the reserves or National Guard, or a military spouse or dependent, please stay in contact with me if any aspect of your present or prior service or family situation makes it difficult for you to fulfill the requirements of a course or creates disruption in your academic progress. It is important to make me aware of any complications as far in advance as possible. I am willing to work with you and, if needed, put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you. Campus resources for military affiliated students are in the [Military and Veterans Success Center \(MVSC \(Links to an external site.\)\)](#). The MVSC can be reached at MVSC@uttyler.edu, or via phone at 903.565.5972.

**Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct:** The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the [Student Conduct and Discipline policy \(Links to an external site.\)](#) in the Student Manual Of Operating Procedures (Section 8).

**FERPA** - UT Tyler follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as noted in [University Policy 5.2.3 \(Links to an external site.\)](#). The course instructor will follow all requirements in protecting your confidential information.

## **COVID Guidance**

*Information for Classrooms and Laboratories:* Students are expected to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories). The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code \(Links to an external site.\)](#) and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff. Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, digestive issues (e.g. nausea, diarrhea), or a higher than normal temperature should stay at home and are encouraged to use the [UT Tyler COVID-19 Information and Procedures \(Links to an external site.\)](#) website to review protocols, check symptoms, and report possible exposure. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email [saroffice@uttyler.edu](mailto:saroffice@uttyler.edu).

**Absence for Official University Events or Activities:** This course follows the practices related to approved absences as noted by the Student Manual of Operating Procedures ([Sec. 1 -501 \(Links to an external site.\)](#)).

**Absence for Religious Holidays:** Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious holiday are requested to inform the instructor by the second class meeting of the semester.

**Campus Carry:** We respect the right and privacy of students who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure

and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.

### **CEP Vision and Mission and Program Standards:**

**Vision:** The College of Education and Psychology is nationally recognized and respected for its academic programs and opportunities. It is a center of academic excellence, scholarly inquiry, and public service. The College prepares leaders to meet the critical challenges of the 21st Century, to make significant contributions to local and global communities, and to work toward individual and cultural equity.

**Mission:** The mission of the College of Education and Psychology is to provide a positive environment that fosters the acquisition of knowledge and skills. The mission is individually and collectively realized through a community of scholars that contribute to knowledge through scholarly inquiry; organizes knowledge for application, understanding, and communication; and provides leadership and service. Additionally, the College is committed to affirming and promoting global perspectives, cultural diversity, and respect for individual differences as a means of enhancing learning, service, and scholarship.