

Welcome to Dual Credit General Psychology PSYC 2301

Fall 2021

Instructor Information

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Office HOURS: Monday – Thursday 12:10-12:55 p.m.

Email

ONLY USE YOUR RHS EMAIL ACCOUNT THROUGHOUT THIS COURSE. DO NOT SEND EMAIL OR MESSAGES THROUGH BLACKBOARD OR ANY SPC ACCOUNT. You may send me an email message at lcrane@risdtx.us Please be aware of the “turn around” time for emails: If you send me an email between Monday morning and noon on Friday, I will reply within 24 hours. However, if you send an email during the weekend, the soonest I will be able to reply is the following Monday. **IMPORTANT:** As a college student who is working toward a profession/career, it is imperative (for your success) that you learn to send professional emails.

Tips for Student Email

Because email is one of the main forms of communication in academia, you should check your email at least daily. Our email communication may touch on confidential academic matters, like your performance on a quiz or your overall grade, therefore you must email me using your official Roosevelt student email account (**NOT** your personal email account, e.g., yahoo).

Email Etiquette

For your success as a student, and your success as a professional, you need to learn email etiquette. All emails should include:

- A brief subject line that explains your reason for emailing (e.g., “Subject: Question about the syllabus”),
- Your full name and class (e.g., Alexis Rose, PSYC2301), and
- *The use of standard English skills* (e.g., correct spelling, punctuation and grammar).

Here is a very useful guide about emailing your professors: <https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2015/04/16/advice-students-so-they-dont-sound-silly-emails-essay>

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY FOR ONLINE SUCCESS

Blackboard

All course content will be found on Blackboard, and all coursework will be completed on Blackboard. Therefore, you need a computer with internet access in order to log onto Blackboard (see section below re: computers and internet). You can access Blackboard at <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>. This address will take you to the login page, where you

type in your username and password. Once logged in, you will see a list of classes in which you are enrolled (including PSYC2301.154). Click on the class whose Blackboard page you want to enter.

Access to a working computer with a reliable internet connection

Because this is an online class, all of your coursework will be found and completed online (in Blackboard). Thus, you must have regular access to a computer with the following characteristics:

- A modern operating system (Windows 7 or later is recommended; most class content should be compatible with Mac OS and older versions of Windows, down to XP; Linux operating system is *not* recommended)
- A modern web browser. It is recommended that students use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome to access Blackboard. Students have reported more problems using Internet Explorer, thus Internet Explorer is *not* recommended.
 - You can download Mozilla Firefox [here](#).
 - You can download Google Chrome [here](#).
- A stable, reliable internet connection. High-speed internet (e.g., Cable, DSL, fiber) is the most reliable.
- It is not required, but it is recommended that you use a computer with a hardwired internet access (e.g., instead of WiFi) especially when you complete quizzes and the final exam. When using WiFi, there is a greater risk of interrupted service, and if this happens, your quiz may automatically submit before you answer all the questions.
- The Blackboard app for smartphones can be used to access readings, videos, podcasts and grades on Blackboard, *however is it not recommended for taking quizzes or exams.*

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

The textbook we will use is *Noba Textbook Series: Psychology*, R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), Champaign, IL: DEF Publishers. DOI: nobaproject.com. You may access a [free](#), online version of this textbook at: <http://noba.to/tfke7qy2>, or you may access the [free](#) PDF version of the textbook on Blackboard. Additionally, you can download a PDF of the entire textbook, or PDFs of individual chapters to your own computer and then print chapters if you wish.

REQUIRED COURSEWORK AND GRADES

Your learning in this course will be assessed via: 1) weekly quizzes, 2) a writing assignment, and 3) four exams.

Syllabus Quiz and Weekly Quizzes

- 14 weekly assignments with each worth 14 points
- Your two lowest weekly assignment grades will be dropped
- The highest possible point total on your top 12 weekly assignments = 168 points, or 25% of your final course grade
- Because I drop your two lowest grades, these cannot be made up if missed and submitted late unless due to illness or arranged in advance. Late submissions due to school or outside activities must be arranged beforehand or no credit will be awarded.

Written Assignments

- Daily assignments are worth 15% of your final grade in the course, or 102 points.

Exams

- Each exam is worth 100 points, for a total of 400 points, or 60% of your final course grade.
- One attempt!
- Final Exam is due by 5:00 pm, THURSDAY December 16th **IMPORTANT! This due date is different from the typical due date of for exams! The due of the final exam is on a THURSDAY (not Monday), and it is DUE BY 5:00 pm (not 11:59 pm)!**

Grade Inquiries

If you have a question about a grade in the gradebook, or about an exam or quiz question (e.g., you see a zero in the gradebook, but believe you completed the assignment, or you think your answer to a question was correct, but it was

counted as wrong), you must contact me within one week of the assignment due date. Otherwise the grade in the gradebook is final.

FINAL GRADE CALCULATION

Evaluation Method	Total possible points	% of Final Course Grade
Course Assignments	270 points	40%
Four Exams at 100 points each	400 points	60%
	<i>Total possible points in class = 670</i>	
Tentative Grading Scale for Final Course Grade (the point total might change based on the material we are able to cover which might affect the grading scale):	90% or more of total possible points (600 points or more):	A
	80-89% of total possible points (533-599 points):	B
	70-79% of total possible points (466-532 points):	C
	60-69% of total possible points (399-465 points):	D
	59% or less of total possible points (398 points or less):	F

POLICIES RE: LATE WORK OR MISSING WORK

I have provided all due dates in this syllabus, and in multiple locations on Blackboard. Thus, I have done my job of notifying you about when your quizzes, writing assignment and exams are due—it is now your job to complete them on time.

The two dropped grades are your tickets out of difficult situations. So, use them wisely.

NOTE: If computer issues or other unusual situations occur, I will extend the due date for the entire class. Because these are not causes for a make-up, you should carefully read about how to avoid or deal with technology problems in the sections following this one.

Late Submission of Written Assignment

Assignments must be submitted by the due date. However, to address possible emergencies at or around the due date, I will accept assignments up to 2 days late, but this will be accompanied by a point deduction. I will not accept any assignments that are submitted 3 or more days late.

Missed Exam

Because students only have one attempt on exams, and none of these are dropped, I have a more detailed make-up policy for exams. Please review the table to see how various situations will be resolved.

Issue leading to missed Exam	How it will be resolved
A student is sick on the day an exam is due, or a student is in the hospital for more than three days during the week an exam is due.	As soon as possible, provide documentation of a doctor's visit on the due date of the exam, or documentation of the hospital stay during the week of the missed exam. You must make up the missed exam within 1 week of the last day indicated on the medical documentation (e.g., if you were released from the hospital on the 1 st , your make up work must be submitted no later than the 8 th).
A student lost a loved one the week before an exam due date.	As soon as possible, provide documentation in the form of an obituary or funeral program. The student will have 1 week to make up the missed exam.
A student was caring for a terminally ill loved one during the week an exam was due.	As soon as possible, provide documentation in the form of a doctor's note from the doctor caring for the loved one. The student will have 1 week to make up the missed exam.
A student's exam attempt is disrupted due to a computer problem, but other students could access Blackboard and the exam during that time.	I will review the Blackboard data recorded from your attempted session to determine if a make-up is given. Remember , you must make sure you have reliable internet access for this course. <i><u>Please see the "Troubleshooting" section for tips on avoiding this problem before it happens.</u></i>

Blackboard, and/or the textbook for the course, is unavailable at some point during the week, but not at the time the exam is due.	No makeup is given. All students are able to download a free PDF copy of the textbook, or single chapters. Thus, students are able to complete readings even if Blackboard or the textbook website is down.
A student forgot to submit an exam by the due date.	No makeup is given. I have provided students with all due dates. It is your responsibility to get your work done by those dates.
A student was traveling and did not have access to the internet when the exam or written assignment was due.	No makeup is given. It is your responsibility to make sure you have reliable internet access for the duration of this course. If you must travel during the semester, you need to get your work completed ahead of time, or make sure that you have access to the internet at your travel destination.

TECHNOLOGY PROBLEMS AND HOW TO GET HELP:

There are a several technology problems that students are likely to encounter this semester. Remember, a computer issue that affects an individual student, but not the entire class, will not merit an extension on quizzes or exams. Thus, it is best to plan ahead and assume that you might experience one or two (or all) of these problems. If you take the time NOW to review the “Technology Contingency Plan” table below and figure out how you will address these issues if/when they arise, you will not be flustered—instead, you will be ready to execute your backup plan.

TECHNOLOGY CONTINGENCY (BACK-UP) PLANS	
Problem(s)	Solution
“Argh! My internet is down!” &/or	Free WiFi is available at many area businesses (Starbuck’s, McDonald’s, Chick-fil-A, United Supermarkets), and in the buildings and <i>parking lots</i> of many schools including SPC campuses (also look for “Park and Learn” signs near the LISD schools). Click here for WiFi Resources at SPC (at the bottom of the “WiFi Resources at SPC” page you will also find phone carrier assistance plans).
“OMG! My computer is not working!” &/or	Make a list of friends, family members, classmates &/ or even neighbors who might let you borrow their computer, or their WiFi, or their printer in the event yours is not working
“Darn! I need to print [that thing], but my printer is out of ink.” &/or	If you are an SPC student, and within driving distance, we have computer labs with computers, printers and internet access at every campus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPC Reese Campus computer labs: Building 8 (room 827 and the library), Building 2 (room 207), and Building 4 (adjacent to room 451) • SPC Levelland Campus computer lab: Technology building • SPC Lubbock Center, 39th & Avenue Q: Room 109 and Room 138 • SPC Plainview Center, 1920 W. 24th St., Plainview, Texas
“Ugh! I’m out of town, and I don’t have a computer [or access to the internet]”	Public libraries (wherever you live) typically have computers available to the public
	If your computer breaks down, contact a local computer repair business (e.g., Best Buy, Office Depot, etc.). Or, if possible, buy an inexpensive computer from sites like edealinfo.com , Amazon marketplace, Newegg or eBay.
	If you are traveling, find out if the hotel has a computer lab for guests, or if the person you are staying with has a computer with internet access. If not, work ahead and get your quiz, or exam, or written assignment completed before you leave.

Blackboard and Email Technical Support

For technical problems using Blackboard, contact the SPC Tech Support staff at 806-716-2180, Mon-Fri, 8 am – 4 pm; or email blackboard@southplainscollege.edu or go to <https://help.blackboard.com>. You can also call Blackboard Support at (800)424-9299. For problems with SPC email, contact the SPC help desk at (806)716-2600 or at helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu.

The table below contains possible troubleshooting solutions to help you solve common technology issues:

TECH TROUBLESHOOTING	
Problem	Possible Solution
I cannot access Blackboard, but I can access other websites	Blackboard might be down. Check your SPC email and MySPC for announcements about Blackboard outages. IF you cannot access these sources of information, or if there are no such announcements, contact Blackboard support (see above).
I cannot access any websites.	Your internet may be down. If you know how, try resetting your modem and/or router. If your internet is still not working, contact your internet provider, or implement one of your contingency plans (see above).
I cannot access the textbook website, but I can access other websites.	Use the PDF of the textbook, posted on Blackboard, to complete assigned readings for the week.

OTHER IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION:

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to do their own work on all quizzes, assignments, and exams. Failure to comply with this policy (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

****In the spirit of upholding academic integrity, I want to express my gratitude to my colleague, Dr. and Dr. Will Crescioni for sharing his online syllabi with me. My syllabus draws heavily from Dr. Crescioni's beautifully formatted and worded syllabus, especially the sections on technology and missed work.**

COVID, Vaccinations, Face Masks

It is strongly recommended by South Plains College, the Lubbock Health Department, the Texas Health Department and the Centers for Disease Control that all students be responsible and respectful of their own well-being and others' well-being by engaging in behaviors that avoid the spread of COVID-19. Such behaviors specifically include being fully immunized against COVID-19, and if a student is not vaccinated, then he/she/they should properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Furthermore, if a student has symptoms of COVID, tests positive for COVID, or is exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID, the student should quarantine and contact DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN in Health Services at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376.

Attendance and Drop Policy

For online students, I will take attendance based on your completion of graded work by the due date, and logging into Blackboard. A student may be dropped from this course if 1) the student has not logged on to Blackboard for 14+ consecutive days, or 2) the student has not logged onto Blackboard by the 12th day of classes (September 15th), or 3) the student has a sufficient amount of incomplete work that would make it impossible to pass the course.

Americans with Disabilities Act Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland Student Health & Wellness Center 806-716-2577; Reese Center (Building 8) and Lubbock Center, 806-716-4675; or Plainview Center Main Office, 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Diversity Statement

In this class, the instructor will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about

ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR:

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>READINGS</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENTS</u>	<u>DUE DATES (NO LATER THAN...)</u>
<u>WEEK 1</u> <u>MON 8/30-SUN 9/5</u>	WELCOME! READ & UNDERSTAND THE SYLLABUS; BECOME COMFORTABLE NAVIGATING BLACKBOARD HISTORY OF PSYCHOLOGY HTTP://NOBA.TO/J8XKGCZ5	QUIZ #1	SUN 9/5 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 2</u> MON <u>9/6-SUN 9/12</u>	PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES AND OTHER OUTSIDE READINGS	QUIZ #2	SUN 9/12 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 3</u> MON <u>9/13-SUN 9/19</u>	WHY SCIENCE? HTTP://NOBA.TO/QU4ABPZY RESEARCH DESIGNS HTTP://NOBA.TO/ACXB2THY	QUIZ #3	SUN 9/19 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 4</u> MON <u>9/20-SUN 9/26</u>	THE HEALTHY LIFE HTTP://NOBA.TO/4TM85Z2X	QUIZ #4	SUN 9/26 BY 11:59 PM
END OF WEEK 4/START OF WEEK 5	COMPLETE EXAM #1 ON THE MATERIAL COVERED IN WEEKS 2-4	EXAM #1	MON 9/27 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 5</u> MON <u>9/27-SUN 10/3</u>	THE BRAIN AND NERVOUS SYSTEM HTTP://NOBA.TO/4HZF8XV6 PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY (JUST THE INTRODUCTION AND TABLES 1 & 2) HTTP://NOBA.TO/UMX6F2T8	QUIZ #5	SUN 10/3 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 6</u> MON <u>10/4-SUN 10/10</u>	STATES OF CONSCIOUSNESS HTTP://NOBA.TO/XJ2CBHEK THE UNCONSCIOUS HTTP://NOBA.TO/46HRVMAB	QUIZ #6	SUN 10/10 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 7</u> MON <u>10/11-SUN 10/17</u>	CONDITIONING AND LEARNING HTTP://NOBA.TO/AJXHCQDR	QUIZ #7	SUN 10/17 BY 11:59 PM
END OF WEEK 7/START OF WEEK 8	COMPLETE EXAM #2 ON THE MATERIAL COVERED IN WEEKS 5-7	EXAM #2	MON 10/18 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 8</u> MON <u>10/18-SUN 10/24</u>	MEMORY (ENCODING, STORAGE, RETRIEVAL) HTTP://NOBA.TO/BDC4UGER	QUIZ #8, AND WRITING ASSIGNMENT CHECK-IN	SUN 10/24 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 9</u> MON <u>10/25-SUN 10/31</u>	PERSONALITY TRAITS HTTP://NOBA.TO/96U8ECGW PERSONALITY ASSESSMENT HTTP://NOBA.TO/EAC2PYV7	QUIZ #9	SUN 10/31 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 10</u> MON <u>11/1-SUN 11/7</u>	PREJUDICE, DISCRIMINATION AND STEREOTYPING HTTP://NOBA.TO/JFKX7NRD	QUIZ #10	SUN 11/7 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 11</u> MON <u>11/8-SUN 11/14</u>	PERSUASION HTTP://NOBA.TO/HKRAY8FS	QUIZ #11	SUN 11/14 BY 11:59 PM
END OF WEEK 11/START OF WEEK 12	COMPLETE EXAM #3 ON THE MATERIAL COVERED IN WEEKS 8-11	EXAM #3	MON 11/15 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 12</u> MON <u>11/15-SUN 11/21</u>	MOOD DISORDERS HTTP://NOBA.TO/AQY9RSXE	QUIZ #12	SUN 11/21 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 13</u> MON <u>11/22-SUN 11/28</u>	ANXIETY DISORDERS HTTP://NOBA.TO/XMS3NQ2C	QUIZ #13, AND WRITING ASSIGNMENT CHECK-IN	SUN 11/28 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 14</u> MON <u>11/29-SUN 12/5</u>	SCHIZOPHRENIA SPECTRUM DISORDERS HTTP://NOBA.TO/5D98NSY4	QUIZ #14	SUN 12/5 BY 11:59 PM
<u>WEEK 15</u> MON <u>12/6-SUN 12/12</u>	WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE BY 11:59 PM ON MONDAY 12/6. STUDY FOR YOUR FINAL EXAM DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK	WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE!	MON 12/6 BY 11:59 PM

<u>WEEK 16: FINAL EXAM</u> <u>WEEK! MON 12/13-</u> <u>THUR 12/16</u>	<u>COMPLETE THE FINAL EXAM ON THE MATERIAL</u> <u>COVERED IN WEEKS 12-14</u>	<u>FINAL EXAM</u>	<u>YOU MUST COMPLETE THE FINAL</u> <u>EXAM NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM</u> <u>THURSDAY 12/16!</u>
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IMPORTANT NOTE: *There may be videos and an occasional podcast that students are required. Please do not neglect these, as some quiz and exam questions are drawn directly from the videos and podcasts.*

Important Academic Dates and Holidays:

Monday, August 30th— First day of classes

Monday, September 6th— Labor Day Holiday*

Wednesday, September 15th—the 12th Class Day (students who have not accessed Blackboard by 9/15 will be dropped)

Friday October 15th—Fall Break Holiday*

Wednesday November 24th to Friday November 26th—Thanksgiving Holiday*

Thursday, December 2nd—Last day for students to drop a course

Monday December 13th to Thursday December 16th—Final Exam Week (no regularly held classes, final exams only)

**On these holidays, classes do not meet, campus buildings are closed, and faculty and staff are not available on the Holidays noted above*