



**EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY**

DEPARTMENT OF
Psychology

**Introduction to Psychology
PSYC 1310 – 003 (CRN: 84433)
M W 15:10 to 16:30
403 Rogers Stout Hall**

Instructor: Dr. Eric W. Sellers
Student Hours: M W 16:30 – 17:30
Other Times by Appointment
Contact Info: E- Mail sellers@etsu.edu
Office Rogers Stout 424B
Phone 423.439.4476

Required Course Materials:

Stable Internet connection and web camera for exams

The OpenStax Psychology Textbook for this course is FREE. It is an Open Educational Resource (OER) for students. Students may view the FREE textbook online or download a PDF of the textbook to read offline on a computer or smartphone. In addition to these options, students have many other options for reading the textbook: ordering a print version (around \$40), downloading the OpenStax app, downloading the textbook onto iBooks (\$6.99), Kindle (Free) or Chegg. The OpenStax Psychology Textbook Website has links for all of these options.

Spielman, R., Dumper, K., Jenkins, W., Lacombe, A., Lovett, M., & Pelmutter, M. (2014). *Psychology*. Retrieved from <https://openstax.org/books/psychology/pages/1-introduction>

Face Covering Policy:

Please wear a mask or other appropriate Face Covering to class. Wearing a mask that covers your nose and mouth communicates the care and respect you have for yourself, the care and respect you have for those you live with, and the care and respect you have for other members of this classroom community. The best evidence we have, from public health professionals, is that wearing masks is one of the best ways to protect against the spread of COVID-19 and other airborne illnesses. Students with medical conditions that inhibit their ability to wear masks should register through disability services by contact Disability Services by telephone at 423-439-8346 or by email at littleme@etsu.edu to request an accommodation. The policy can be found at <https://www.etsu.edu/policies/health-safety/face-coverings.php>.

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the basic concepts, principles, and theories of the science of psychology. Topics included are biological and developmental processes, perception and awareness, learning and thinking, motivation and emotion, personality and individuality, adjustment and mental health, and social behavior.

Course Objectives:

The purpose of this class is to provide you with a thorough introduction to the fascinating field of psychology and its numerous specialties. During this course, students will gain a basic understanding of the methods used in psychology and the variety of psychological theories that have been generated using these methods. Throughout the course, students should increase their competence in evaluating, discussing, and critiquing information, becoming more intelligent consumers of information, and more independent thinkers. This course will also introduce students to a wide variety of applications of psychology, resulting in numerous career paths for the individual with a degree in psychology.

At the conclusion of this course, students will:

- Have a basic understanding of research design and the scientific method.
- Have a basic understanding of the differences between biological, cognitive, developmental, and social components of psychology.
- Gain an understanding of the major theoretical contributions to psychology.
- Have a basic understanding of the brain and the nervous system.
- Have a basic understanding of broad groups of psychopathology.
- Have a basic understanding of basic learning principles.
- Have a basic understanding of major theories of personality and their empirical support.
- Have a basic understanding of biological versus environmental influences on behavior.
- Have a basic understanding of at least two major types of treatment for psychological disorders.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend class. Research has shown that students who attend class earn higher grades than students who choose not to attend class. Students are expected to be seated and ready to begin at the start of class, and to remain for the entire class. It is generally disruptive to enter the classroom late, or leave early. Please be punctual and respectful to your instructor and fellow classmates. If it is necessary to arrive to class late or leave early please notify the instructor in advance.

Electronic Devices:

You are welcome to use an iPad or laptop computer to follow along with lecture material. In general, electronic devices are disruptive and I do not expect to see mobile phones. If I see a mobile phone I will ask you to leave for the remainder of the lecture. In addition, I expect phones to be in do not disturb mode. If a phone rings, I will ask you to leave for the remainder of the lecture. If you have a reason for not putting your phone in do not disturb mode, please inform me before the lecture begins and leave the room immediately to take the call.

Grades:

5 Exams (100 Points Each)	500 Points
14 Chapter Quizzes (10 Points Each)	140 Points
Course Total	640 Points

Point Breakdown:

Grade	Points	Percentage
A	576 - 640	90.0 - 100
B+	564 - 575	88.0 - 89.9
B	525 - 563	82.0 - 87.9
B-	512 - 524	80.0 - 81.9
C+	500 - 511	78.0 - 79.9
C	442 - 499	69.0 - 77.9
D	385 - 441	60.0 - 68.9
F	≤ 384	≤ 59.9

Exams:

There are five exams and each exam is worth 100 points. Each exam consists of 50 multiple choice questions. Exams are located in D2L under 'Assessments'. Comprehension level competence is expected, and exams will include both factual and conceptual/applied questions. The exams will cover information from the text and unique information that is only available in the PPT slides. Therefore, it is important that you thoroughly review the PPT slides and make note of the information that is not presented in the text. Each exam has a 1-hour time limit and must be completed the first time it is launched.

Exams must be taken using the Respondus LockDown Browser + Monitor (i.e., a web camera). This means that you will need to either (A) download the Respondus Lockdown Browser on your personal computer and have a web camera, or (B) take exams in the ETSU Testing Center. While using the Respondus browser, you will be unable to print, copy, go to another website, use function keys, or open other applications on your computer. Instructions for installing and/or launching the Lockdown Browser and Monitor are located in the content section of D2L. If you have problems installing the browser, you can contact the ITS Help Desk (itshelp@etsu.edu; 423.439.4648). You can install the browser on a Mac or PC. The Browser is not compatible with the Chromebook platform.

Before completing the first exam you are required to complete the 'Syllabus Exam' to ensure that you have installed the Browser properly. I strongly suggest that you do this during the first week of the course to make sure there are no surprises on the day of the first exam. Moreover, you will not be able to access any of the exams until you have completed the Syllabus Exam.

Exams will only be available in D2L during the class period on the date indicated in the course schedule (last page of this document). In other words, you will complete the exam during the regularly scheduled lecture time. You are welcome to complete the exam in the classroom if you would like to; however, you may complete the exam in any well-lit quiet room.

You may use hand written notes while you take exams. You are required to show the notes you will be using during the environmental check portion of the exam start-up sequence. In addition, your work space should be clear of any books, food and drinks, and electronic devices other than the computer you are using for the exam. Although the format for the exams is open, they are still exams and should be treated as such. Submission of the exam will be considered your personal honor statement that you did not give help to, or receive help from anyone on the exam, and that all answers are the result of your independent work. Detailed instructions on taking the exams will be presented when you launch an exam. If the video recording is not adequate I will send an email indicating the problem(s) with the video recording. In the event that the recording issues are not addressed in subsequent exams, you will be assigned a grade of zero for the exam.

In the event of a computer malfunction in the middle of an exam, contact me immediately so that the exam can be reset. After completing the exam, grades will immediately appear in the grade book. Please let me know if there is a problem with your grade.

Quizzes:

There will be **fourteen**, 10-point quizzes which will correspond to each chapter covered. Quizzes will be on D2L and can be found in the content modules as well as under the evaluation tab in assessments. Each quiz has a 20-minute time limit. Quizzes that exceed the 20-minute time limit will not receive a grade. Each quiz can be taken twice, and the highest grade from the two attempts will be recorded in the grade book. **Quizzes must be completed by 11:59 PM on the date indicated in the course schedule (last page of this document).**

Exams and Quizzes, Additional Note:

Both exams and quizzes will pull randomly from a test bank of many questions selected/created by me to assess the information we will cover, and thus, no two tests or quizzes will be the same. Therefore, if you at any point need to have an exam reset due to electrical or internet complications, be aware that you will not get the same exam again.

Research Requirement:

To aid in the understanding of the science of psychology, each student is **required** to complete a research portion of this course. You may complete this requirement in one of two ways:

1. **Research Participation:** Participate in studies currently being conducted by researchers in the department of psychology. Computer sign-up for available studies is located at <http://etsu.sona-systems.com>. After you create a username and password, you may browse through the studies being offered and sign up for different studies. Experiments conducted in a laboratory are worth substantially more credit than online surveys. All credits must be completed by **11:59 PM on Friday, December 3**. To view a SONA tutorial, visit the [SONA tutorial on YouTube](#).
2. **Alternate Research Requirement:** Fulfillment of this research requirement may also be accomplished by completing SONA surveys about empirical articles. To complete the alternative research assignment, read the information posted on our D2L course page about SONA Research, then go to etsu.sona-systems.com. Find the “PSYC130 Research Alternative 1” survey. Alternative research assignments must be completed on SONA by **11:59 PM on Tuesday, November 30**.

Fulfillment of this research requirement may also be accomplished by completing a combination of participation in SONA studies and summaries of empirical research articles. Each student must earn a total of **5 research credits**. **Failure to complete this research requirement will result in a deduction of 1% point from your final grade for the course for each ½ credit you are deficient.** For example, if your final grade for the course was 90%, but you only earned 4.5 research credits, 1% would be deducted from your final grade resulting in an 89%. If you were to only earn 2 research credits, 6% would be deducted from your final grade resulting in an 84%. If you did not earn any research credits, 10% would be deducted from your final grade resulting in an 80%. Visit the [ETSU Department of Psychology SONA information webpage](#) and our D2L course page under the “SONA Research Participation” tab (bottom of D2L Contents) for further instructions and details about the research requirement, please refer to http://www.etsu.edu/cas/psychology/department_features/sona.php. Should you need any assistance with SONA, please contact the ETSU SONA Administrator at etsusona@etsu.edu.

Extra Credit:

Four percent of your final course grade can be earned through extra credit points; this corresponds to 20 SONA credits. For every five additional SONA credits your final grade will increase by 1%. Thus, to fulfill the research requirement AND earn the maximum extra credit available, you would need to complete 25 SONA credits. As with the research requirement, extra credit must be completed by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, December 3.

Internet/D2L:

The course web page will be maintained on Desire2Learn (D2L) (<https://elearn.etsu.edu>). It is imperative that you regularly check D2L for announcements, assignments, other course materials, grades, and resources for this course. It is your responsibility to have consistent and reliable access to the internet.

The OIT Student Helpdesk is your best resource for most technical problems. The only problem that I can help with directly is resetting an exam or quiz in the event of a computer malfunction. If you cannot log into D2L or access course materials, these problems are beyond my ability to help but can always be quickly and easily resolved by the OIT personnel. Students can call the help desk at 423-439-4648 or email the help desk at helpdesk@etsu.edu. For assistance with D2L, students can find answers to many frequently asked questions at <http://www.etsu.edu/d2l/students>.

Instructor Availability:

Should you have any questions or want to discuss any issues or concerns relating to this course, I am available on Monday and Wednesday after class and by appointment. Otherwise, the absolute best way to contact me is via e-mail. I generally respond within 24 hours; however, if you email on Friday or over the weekend I may not reply until the following Monday. When you e-mail, **please include your name, and the course (PSYC 1310) in the subject line.** If you send an e-mail without a subject line, it is likely that I will not read your message. Also, please be specific in your questions; the more information you provide, the quicker I will be able to respond to your emails.

I am happy to answer any questions you have about assignments, exams, course material, etc., I am not happy to answer questions that are answered in this document, other course materials, or course announcements. Please make sure that the answer to your question is **not** in the syllabus before you send an e-mail.

Diversity and Inclusivity:

Diversity means the fair representation of all groups of individuals, the inclusion of minority perspectives and voices, and the appreciation of different cultural and socioeconomic group experiences and practices. The academic community should be one that respects the rights, dignity, and welfare of all individuals and that is free from discrimination, harassment, exploitation, or intimidation. Every student in this course, regardless of personal history or identity categories, is a valued member of this group. Your experiences are valuable and important, and you should feel free to share them as they become relevant to our class. No student in this class is ever expected or believed to speak for all members of a group. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive environment for every other member of the class. Please maintain courteous and respectful communication, regardless of differences of opinion. This does not guarantee that your viewpoint will not be challenged or unpopular. Rather, in the true spirit of education, we need to try to understand the culture and experiences that contribute to different perspectives so society continues to advance in ways that are advantageous to all of our futures. The only way we can do this is through respectful, rational, and diplomatic discourse. I encourage you to welcome all viewpoints as tools for expanding your own awareness.

If you find there are aspects of course instruction, subject matter, or environment that result in barriers to your inclusion, please contact me privately without fear of reprisal.

Academic Integrity:

All students must comply with the University's regulations on academic misconduct. The ETSU academic honor code holds each student responsible for 1) upholding the highest standards of academic integrity in the student's own work, 2) refusing to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the University community, and 3) fostering a high sense of integrity and social responsibility. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct will **not** be tolerated. Any act of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on a quiz or exam, plagiarism on an assignment) will automatically result in a zero for the affected work and will be reported to the Associate Dean of Student Affairs within the College of Arts and Sciences (per Tennessee Board of Regents policy effective January 1, 2012). Punishment for such misconduct is in accord with the Tennessee Board of Regents policy. For more information regarding the University's academic misconduct policy, refer to the ETSU Student Handbook (<http://catalog.etsu.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=171>).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that all qualified persons should have equal opportunity and access to education regardless of the presence of any disabling conditions. Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations should 1) seek assistance from Disability Services at ETSU (<http://www.etsu.edu/students/ds/>); 2) bring a Faculty Accommodation Form to the instructor from Disability Services indicating the academic accommodations that may be needed (or have it sent via e-mail); and 3) communicate to the instructor about which academic accommodations you will need during the semester, and how that may be accomplished. If you require special provisions, please notify me immediately with any supporting documentation. This information will remain confidential.

ETSU Syllabus Attachment:

The following attachment contains important information that the University wants each student to have regarding university policies and services. Please review this document.

<https://www.etsu.edu/curriculum-innovation/syllabusattachment.php>

PSYC 1310 – Schedule

Exams must be taken via D2L on the date specified and during the scheduled class time

Quizzes must be taken before 11:59 PM on the scheduled date

Topics covered and quiz dates may change. Exam dates will NOT change

Date	Lecture Topic	Quiz (Due Date)
Aug 23	Syllabus	
Aug 25	Chapter 1: Introduction to Psychology	Quiz 1: Chapter 1 (Aug 27)
Aug 30	Chapter 2: Psychological Research	
Sept 1	Chapter 2: Psychological Research (continued)	Quiz 2: Chapter 2 (Sept 3)
Sept 6	Labor Day (class canceled)	
Sept 8	EXAM 1: Chapter 1 & 2	
Sept 13	Chapter 3: Biopsychology	
Sept 15	Chapter 3: Biopsychology (continued)	Quiz 3: Chapter 3 (Sept 17)
Sept 20	Chapter 4: States of Consciousness	Quiz 4: Chapter 4 (Sept 21)
Sept 22	Chapter 5: Sensation and Perception	
Sept 27	Chapter 5: Sensation and Perception (continued)	Quiz 5: Chapter 5 (Sept 28)
Sept 29	EXAM 2: Chapter 3, 4 & 5	
Oct 4	Chapter 6: Learning – Classical Conditioning	
Oct 6	Chapter 6: Learning – Operant Conditioning	Quiz 6: Chapter (Oct 8)
Oct 11	Fall Break (class canceled)	
Oct 13	Chapter 7: Thinking and Intelligence	Quiz 7: Chapter 7 (Oct 15)
Oct 18	Chapter 8: Memory	
Oct 20	Chapter 8: Memory (continued)	Quiz 8: Chapter 8 (Oct 22)
Oct 25	EXAM 3: Chapter 6, 7, & 8	
Oct 27	Chapter 9: Lifespan Development	Quiz 9: Chapter 9 (Oct 29)
Nov 1	Chapter 10: Emotion and Motivation	Quiz 10: Chapter 10 (Nov 2)
Nov 3	Chapter 11: Personality	
Nov 8	Chapter 11: Personality (continued)	Quiz 11: Chapter 11 (Nov 9)
Nov 10	EXAM 4: Chapter 9, 10, & 11	
Nov 15	Chapter 12: Social Psychology	
Nov 17	Chapter 12: Social Psychology (continued)	Quiz 12: Chapter 12 (Nov 19)
Nov 22	Chapter 14: Stress, Lifestyle, and Health	Quiz 13: Chapter 14 (Nov 26)
Nov 24	Thanksgiving (class canceled)	
Nov 29	Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders	Quiz 14: Chapter 15 (Nov 30)
Dec 1	EXAM 5: Chapter 12, 14, & 15	