



EAST TENNESSEE STATE  
UNIVERSITY

## Department of Psychology

PSYC 1310 – Introduction to Psychology  
Section 005, Fall 2021

# Syllabus

## Instructor Contact Information

**Instructor:** Elizabeth Davison, M.S.

**Email:** davisone@etsu.edu

**Phone:** 423-439-4593

**Office:** Rogers-Stout Hall, 420-B (located inside Psychology department main office)

**Student Hours:** MW from 10:30—11:30 and by appointment (email to schedule)

## Instructor Availability

Email is the best way to get in contact with me. If you need/want to talk, please email me and we can set up a time to talk (in-person, phone, or Zoom). Please allow up to 24 hours during the week (M-F) and up to 48 hours during weekends and holidays for me to respond.

## Meetings and Location

**Classroom:** Rogers-Stout Hall 403

**Class Meeting Schedule:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:20—10:15 am

# Course Information

## 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 Purpose and Goals

This 3-credit hour course is designed to provide you with a greater knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of psychology. Objectives for this course include 1) providing a broad overview of the field of psychology, with an emphasis on the science of psychology and how psychology applies to and impacts each of us in our daily lives; 2)

obtaining a greater knowledge of psychological principles as well as of human behavior and motives; 3) the development of scientific values and skills as well as an appreciation of scientific methods (especially as they pertain to psychology); and 4) learning how to evaluate, discuss, and critique information, becoming more intelligent consumers of information, and becoming independent thinkers.

## Course Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, students will:

1. Have a basic understanding of research design and the scientific method.
2. Have a basic understanding of the differences between biological, cognitive, developmental, and social components of psychology.
3. Gain an understanding of the major theoretical contributions to psychology.
4. Have a basic understanding of the brain and the nervous system.
5. Have a basic understanding of broad groups of psychopathology.
6. Have a basic understanding of basic learning principles.
7. Have a basic understanding of major theories of personality and their empirical support.
8. Have a basic understanding of at least two major types of treatment for psychological disorders.

## Course Requirements

### Textbooks and Materials

OpenStax Psychology 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. (2020). This book is freely available to students and can be accessed at <https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>.

### Technical Requirements

Students should have a basic working knowledge of how to navigate and use D2L. This course will require the use of Microsoft Word to complete assignments.

## Course Policies and Expectations

### Classroom and Communication Policies

#### Email Communication

- Students should regularly check their ETSU email account as the instructor will use that address to send out information if needed.
- Students must use their ETSU email accounts to send messages to the instructor. **Always include your name and the course number in emails to the instructor.**
- The instructor will attempt to respond to email within (24-48 hrs) and will expect students to respond to emails within that same timeframe if a response is requested.

## Attendance

Attendance is expected throughout the course if you are not sick. Do not come to class if you are experiencing any symptoms of illness. When attending class:

“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 contacting Disability Services by telephone at 423-439-8346 or by email at [littleme@etsu.edu](mailto:littleme@etsu.edu) to request an accommodation. The policy can be found at <https://www.etsu.edu/policies/health-safety/face-coverings.php>.”

## Participation

Participation and engagement in this course is extremely important and includes taking part in class discussions and exercises, asking and answering questions in class, talking with me during student hours, or even asking questions or making comments via e-mail or on D2L. Check D2L regularly for any course updates, including announcements regarding any class cancelations.

## Course Expectations for Students

- Students should arrive in class **on time** and not leave until dismissed. If there are extenuating circumstances, please discuss with the instructor in advance or as soon as is possible.
- Some weeks require more time for readings/assignments than others; plan accordingly.
- Always ask the instructor for clarification if you have a question.
- If you use laptops, tablets or smart phones in class, they should be used **ONLY FOR COURSEWORK** during the class period. It is a distraction to other students and to the instructor if you are surfing the web, etc. You will be asked to put your device away if you are unable to use it for coursework only.
- Be respectful toward your classmates and instructor.
- Cell phones should be silenced during class. **NO TEXTING.**
- If any course information or links do not work, please let the instructor know ASAP.
- If you find a helpful link or resource, let the instructor know so that it can be shared with other students.
- Cheating/Plagiarism will not be tolerated.

## Etiquette and Classroom Misconduct

All students will conduct themselves in a courteous and polite manner fitting the classroom. Disruptive behavior (e.g., cell phone calls, text messaging, unnecessary chattering or whispering, arriving to class late or leaving early, offensive language, harassment of instructor or other students, repeated outbursts, etc.) will not be tolerated. Any student engaging in disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the classroom.

Students who use laptop computers, tablet computers, or smart phones in class must do so exclusively for the purpose of taking notes during lectures. Surfing the web, playing games, visiting social networking sites, sending text messages, emailing, etc., conveys disrespect to the instructor and to your fellow students. If it is discovered that you are engaging in such behavior, you will be asked to put away your device, will no longer be allowed to use this device in class, and may be asked to leave the classroom.

### **Academic Misconduct**

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 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 Higher Education Commission policy effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 website](#).

## **Assignments and Submission Guidelines**

**I'm Here Post (10 points):** After you have attended the first class, reviewed the syllabus, and navigated our D2L site, you are required to complete the "I'm Here Post" in D2L. Directions detailed in D2L.

**Chapter Quizzes (130 points):** For each chapter, you must complete an online quiz on D2L to show that you have completed the required reading. There are 13 multiple choice quizzes, each worth 10 points. You may take each quiz up to 2 times, and your highest grade out of your 2 attempts will be recorded in the gradebook. Though you do not have to take the quiz 2 times, it is highly encouraged that you do, as they are designed to help you master the material in each chapter. These are open-book/open-note quizzes, but since you have 2 attempts available, I would suggest that you try to take the quiz without the book/notes at least once, because this can help you learn the material more successfully.

**Reflection Paper (20 points):** This paper will provide the opportunity to reflect on course content and apply it to your own life. More specific requirements will be available in D2L. This assignment must be submitted to the Reflection Paper Dropbox.

*Important note: When you turn in your paper to the D2L drop box, D2L will send you a confirmation email. You should check to make sure you receive a confirmation email whenever you turn in an assignment to the D2L drop box. In addition, KEEP THIS EMAIL in case you need proof that you turned in the assignment to the D2L drop box.*

**Cumulative Final Exam (40 points):** The final exam covers material from the entire semester. The final exam will be taken on D2L and is open-note/open-book. Students will have two attempts available, and the highest score will be recorded.

### **Late Assignment Policy**

No late work will be accepted for this class. Students are provided an adequate amount of time to complete coursework (quizzes, paper, and final exam). While I recommend starting on coursework sooner rather than later (**do not wait until the last minute**), I understand unforeseeable events may occur. Please let me know if there are any extenuating circumstances that should be considered.

### **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) Participate in studies currently being conducted by researchers in the department of psychology. Computer sign-up for the studies you may participate in 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. Please note that online and lab-based studies are added to Sona throughout the semester. Participation in Sona studies must be completed by **11:59pm on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. To view a Sona tutorial, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OnT2ZU6QQ>.

2) Fulfillment of this research requirement may also be accomplished by completing summaries of empirical research articles. To complete the research alternative, please see the instructions and articles posted on D2L. Alternate assignments must be completed by **11:59pm on Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>**. If you are not 18 years or older you must complete the alternate assignment for the research requirement for this course.

Fulfillment of the research requirement may also be accomplished by completing a combination, or mix, 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%. For further

instructions and details about the research requirement, please refer to [http://www.etsu.edu/cas/psychology/department\\_features/sona.php](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](mailto:etsusona@etsu.edu).

### Extra Credit

Once you have completed the research requirement, you may earn up to **10 extra credit points** (5%) for the semester by participating in additional psychology studies in SONA or by doing the research alternative (article summaries). As with the research requirement, extra credit must be completed by 11:59pm on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

You are required to complete 5 Sona credits (see Research Requirement section above) and can complete up to 5 **additional** credits for extra credit. Each SONA credit that you receive after your required 5 credits is worth 2 extra credit points. For example, if you complete 7 total Sona credits, then you'll earn 4 extra credit points (7- 5 required Sona credits = 2 Sona extra credits = 2x2 = 4 extra credit points). If you earn all 5 extra Sona credits (for a total of 10 points toward your grade), you can improve your grade by 5% (aka move from an 85% to 90% etc).

### Grading Policy

Over the course of the semester, students will have the opportunity to earn 200 points (not including extra credit).

Your final grade will consist of the following:

**I'm Here Post** = 10 points (5%)

**Chapter Quizzes** = 130 points (65%)

**Reflective Paper** = 20 points (10%)

**Cumulative Final Exam** = 40 points (20%)

**Research Requirement** [Has effect on final grade; See "Research Requirement"]

**Your grade** = Total number of points achieved + extra credit points / 200

### Grading Scale

A: 93-100%

A-: 90-92%

B+: 87-89%

B: 83-86%

B-: 80-82%

C+: 77-79%

C: 73-76%  
 C-: 70-72%  
 D+: 65-69%  
 D: 60-64%  
 F: < 60%

*Please note that a grade of C or higher is required for all Psychology majors and minors.*

### How to Check Grades

Click on the "Evaluation" or "A to Z" tab on our D2L site, select Grades.

### Course Schedule

Please note: the instructor reserves the right to make changes to the course schedule as needed to accommodate the learning needs of the class. The most current syllabus/course syllabus will be posted on D2L and any changes will be announced in class or via email.

Week	Date	Topic	Reading/Assignment Due
1	M, Aug 23	First Day of Classes	
	W, Aug 25	Ch. 1-Intro	
	F, Aug 27 <sup>1</sup>	Ch. 1-Intro	Ch.1 Quiz due 8/29
2	M, Aug 30	Ch. 2-Research	I'm Here Post due by 11:59 pm
	W, Sept 1	Ch. 2-Research	
	F, Sept 3 <sup>2,3</sup>	Ch. 2-Research	Ch. 2 Quiz due 9/5
3	M, Sept 6	University Closed	
	W, Sept 8	Ch. 3-Biopsych	
	F, Sept 10	Ch. 3-Biopsych	Ch. 3 Quiz due 9/12
4	M, Sept 13	Ch. 4-States of Consciousness	
	W, Sept 15	Ch. 4-States of Consciousness	
	F, Sept 17	Ch. 4-States of Consciousness	Ch. 4 Quiz due 9/19
5	M, Sept 20	Ch. 6-Learning	

	W, Sept 22	Ch. 6-Learning	
	F, Sept 24	Ch. 6-Learning	Ch. 6 Quiz due 9/26
6	M, Sept 27	Ch. 8-Memory	
	W, Sept 29	Ch. 8-Memory	
	F, Oct 1	Ch. 8-Memory	Ch. 8 Quiz due 10/3
7	M, Oct 4	Ch. 9-Development	
	W, Oct 6	Ch. 9-Development	
	F, Oct 8	Ch. 9-Development	Ch. 9 Quiz due 10/10
8	M, Oct 11	Fall Break	
	W, Oct 13	Ch. 10-Motivation & Emotion	
	F, Oct 15	Ch. 10-Motivation & Emotion	Ch. 10 Quiz due 10/17
9	M, Oct 18 <sup>4</sup>	Ch. 11-Personality	
	W, Oct 20	Ch. 11-Personality	
	F, Oct 22	Ch. 11-Personality	Ch. 11 Quiz due 10/24
10	M, Oct 25	Ch. 12-Social Psyc	
	W, Oct 27	Ch. 12-Social Psyc	
	F, Oct 29	Ch. 12-Social Psyc	Ch. 12 Quiz due 10/31
11	M, Nov 1	Ch. 14-Stress, Lifestyle, Health	
	W, Nov 3	Ch. 14-Stress, Lifestyle, Health	
	F, Nov 5	Ch. 14-Stress, Lifestyle, Health	Ch. 14 Quiz due 11/7
12	M, Nov 8	Ch. 15-Psychological Disorders	
	W, Nov 10	Ch. 15-Psychological Disorders	
	F, Nov 12	Ch. 15-Psychological Disorders	Ch. 15 Quiz due 11/14
13	M, Nov 15	Ch. 16-Therapy & Treatment	



	W, Nov 17	Ch. 16-Therapy & Treatment	
	F, Nov 19	Ch. 16-Therapy & Treatment	Ch. 16 Quiz due 11/21
14	M, Nov 22	Map out Paper	
	W, Nov 24	University Closed	
	F, Nov 26	University Closed	
15	M, Nov 29	Review chapters	<b>Alternative Research Exposure Activity due by Tues, 11/30</b>
	W, Dec 1 <sup>5</sup>	Last Day of Class	<b>Paper due 12/1 by 11:59pm</b>
	F, Dec 3	No Class	<b>Sona Participation due 12/3 by 11:59pm</b>
16	Dec 6 <sup>th</sup> – Dec 9 <sup>th</sup>	Final Exams	<b>Cumulative Final Exam due 12/6 by 11:59pm</b>

*\*quizzes due Sunday nights at 11:59pm*

<sup>1</sup> August 29 – Last day to add without a departmental permit

<sup>2</sup> Sept 5 – Last day to drop a course without a ‘W’ grade

<sup>3</sup> Sept 7 – Begin late add with dean’s permission only

<sup>4</sup> Oct 18– Last day to drop a course with a ‘W’ grade without dean’s permission

<sup>5</sup> Dec 1 – Last day to withdraw from the university

## Student Services and Technical Resources

### Student Services

The [ETSU Services webpage](#) includes a comprehensive list of services available to all ETSU students.

### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

It is the policy of ETSU to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal law, state law and the University’s commitment to equal educational access. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations, for example arrangement for examinations or seating placement, should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Faculty

accommodation forms are provided to students through Disability Services in the D.P. Culp Center, Room 326, telephone 423-439-8346. [Visit the Disability Services webpage for more information.](#)

### **Center for Academic Achievement (CFAA)**

Located on the first floor of the Sherrod Library, the CFAA (439-7111) is the place for students to go for help with writing and speaking, mathematics, natural sciences, general education courses, and many other subjects. The Center offers tutoring on a walk-in and appointment basis and is open during library hours, including during evenings and weekends. In addition to scheduling an appointment with a CFAA tutor, students can work on homework in the Center and attend drop-in sessions in many subject areas. [Visit the CFAA webpage](#) for more information.

### **Mental Health Resources**

Students often have questions about mental health resources, whether for themselves or for a friend or family member. There are many resources available on the ETSU Campus, including the ETSU Counseling Center, 439-3333; the ETSU Behavioral Health & Wellness Clinic, 439-7777; the ETSU Community Counseling Clinic, 439-4187; and BucsPRESS2, a 24-hour mental health helpline, 423-439-4841.

- **If you or a friend is in immediate crisis, call 911.**
- Available 24 hours per day is the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255).



### **Safe Space**

I am a member of a Safe Zone Ally community network and I am available to listen and support you in a safe and confidential manner. As a Safe Zone Ally, I can help you connect with resources on campus to address problems you may face that interfere with your academic and social success on campus as it relates to issues surrounding sexual orientation and gender identity. My goal is to help you be successful and to maintain a safe and equitable campus.

### **Diversity**

I consider this virtual classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect and I welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, national origins, religious affiliations, sexual orientations, ability – and other visible and non-visible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming and inclusive environment for every other member of the class. In addition, I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

## Technical Resources

### **ITS Help Desk**

The Information Technology Services (ITS) Help Desk is the best resource for most technical problems. Find answers to common questions on the [Help Desk website](#), call, email, or stop in to see them on the first floor of the Sherrod Library. Phone: 423-439-4648  
Email: [itshelp@etsu.edu](mailto:itshelp@etsu.edu)

### **Desire2Learn (D2L) Online Help**

Many answers to D2L related questions can be found on the [D2L Help Student Home](#). If you are still having trouble finding what you need, contact the Help Desk.

### **Microsoft Office Software**

Microsoft Office productivity applications, including Word, PowerPoint, Excel, OneNote, and more, are available free for students through the University's Office 365 campus agreement. For instructions on how to obtain the software, see the [Office 365 page of the ITS Help Desk website](#).

### **Turnitin Plagiarism Detection**

Turnitin is a plagiarism detection service available to students and faculty at ETSU. This tool compares student written work against a comprehensive database of other work as well as various internet sources. Faculty may employ this service for some or all written assignments, in order to help students learn to cite sources accurately and to ensure academic integrity. Learn more on the [Turnitin home page](#).

### **ETSU Technical Resources**

Many other technical resources can be found on the [Online Help webpage](#).

## University Information

### **Syllabus Attachment**

The [ETSU syllabus attachment](#) includes important material such as permits and overrides, advisement, hours, dates and other ETSU information.

### **ETSU Catalogs**

[Current Undergraduate Catalog](#)

[Current Graduate Catalog](#)