



Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number and Name: PSYC 1030 Intro to Psychology

Section ID: 81493.202380

Semester and Year: Fall 2023

Credit Hours: 3

Start Date: August 21, 2023

End Date: December 08, 2023

Course Format: WEB - Web Classes

Catalog Course Description: This course is an introduction to the guiding principles and primary approaches of the study of human and animal behavior. This broad-based course includes the following topics: psychobiology, conditioning, learning, sensation, perception, motivation, emotion, intelligence, personality, life span development, abnormal behavior, social psychology, group processes, stress, and career development. **F, S, Su**

General Education Course Designation: General Education Course

Meeting Details: TBD

Course Drop Deadline: October 27, 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Shane Goad

Office Location: Main

Office Hours: As requested via Zoom, etc. or before class.

Office Phone: 423-585-2600

Email: Shane.Goad@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Dr. Whitney Jarnigan

Supervisor Phone: 423-585-2636

Secretary Name: Lisa Horner

Secretary Phone: 423-585-2633

Required Textbook(s) and Materials

Psychology**ISBN:** 9780136636847**Authors:** Ciccarelli and White**Publisher:** Pearson**Edition:** 6th

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- Describe how the psychological perspective contributes to an understanding of life and the origin of beliefs, values, and behaviors.
- Define and give examples of basic psychological concepts of everyday life.
- Describe how psychology addresses social institutions, such as family, education, and employment.
- Analyze, discuss, and identify research methods and how these methods relate to psychology.
- Apply critical thinking concepts and discussion to contemporary topics.

Instructional Approach and Methods

This course will utilize diverse teaching methods dependent on the context and content of the information presented to students. No matter the content presented or the method of delivery, I believe in using emotion to gain attention, stating clear, concise expectations, eliciting discussion, providing guidance and resources, providing constructive feedback, and assessing performance. All of the above strategies are aimed at enhancing student retention and learning outcomes. I also employ many strategies to facilitate synergy in the classroom. For example, I may open a lecture by asking a question and allow students to engage each other in discussion, while I take a passive role as a facilitator.

The class atmosphere is also democratic in nature, collaborative in design, and a caring, trustful, and nurturing experience for students. I am the first to admit to making any mistake, and I solicit students to critically evaluate our content and time together, just as they would a secondary source of literature. The only caveat being, the student will need to be prepared to defend their position of criticism.

Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

Exams

There will be four major exams worth 100 points each and one cumulative final exam worth 150 points for a total of 550 points. All students must take exams at the scheduled time. If you have a REAL emergency, you must notify me before the exam. If I do not receive notification prior to the Exam, you will not be allowed to make it up. Approved make up exams will take place on the next scheduled exam day.

Test 1 – Psychology in Action: Secrets for Surviving College and Improving Your Grades (PIA-2 – PIA-20); Chapters 1, 2, 8, and 3

Test 2 – Chapters 4, 5, 6, and 7

Test 3 – Chapters 9, 13, 11, and 14

Test 4 – Chapters 15, 10, 12; Applied Psychology and Psychology Careers (Appendix B1-B14)

Test 5 – Final Exam

Other Assessments

During the first week of class, every student will take department-wide Pre-Test. The Pre-Test is worth 0 points and is for my knowledge about your knowledge. The Pre-Test will be given through eLearn.

Book Creator

A Book Creator project is required for this course. It is worth 250 points.

Steps to follow:

1. Create an account on BookCreator.
2. Use the following code to gain access to the Class Library: CODE WILL BE PROVIDED via eLearn.

3. Explore the website and then we will look at it before/after class concerning how to navigate the website and create your book.
4. Select a psychologist of interest in that has some sort of diversity or cultural difference.
5. Create a book using BookCreator over the next 10 weeks that highly details your topic and is at least 15 pages in length.
6. Research your topic and find at least four sources besides the textbook. One of the sources should be from a WSCC online database located on the WSCC Library website. These should be cited on the last page of your book.
7. Every two weeks, complete a Discussion Board in the Discussions section that details some of the things you are learning from your research into the topic. Respond to at least one person with at least 50 words about their post (if there are more than one honors student in the class).
8. Every two weeks we will discuss in class or via Zoom the topic and how the research is going.
9. Finish your BookCreator project within 10 weeks. You should start the project on week two or three of the semester.
10. You will present your book to the class on week 12 or 13 of the semester.
11. Use the rubric found below to determine how well you will do on your project based on the grading criteria.

Grading Rubric for Diversity BookCreator Project

90-100 Points

Book has at least 15 pages

Book has graphics, charts, websites, photos, information on every page

Book has proper grammar, etc.

Book focuses on and contains information about the topic

Book has four sources with one source being from the WSCC Library database website

Presentation of the book to the class is well-planned, thought out, and interactive.

80-89 Points

Book has 10-14 pages

Book has graphics, charts, websites, photos, information on some pages

Some grammar, etc. errors

Book has some focus on the topic

Book has three sources

Presentation of the book to the class is okay, but not interactive

70-79 Points

Book has less than 10 pages

Book has graphics, charts, websites, photos, information on few pages

Many grammar, etc. errors

Some focus on the topic
Book has two sources
Presentation of the book to the class is not well-planned and not interactive

Below 70 Points
No book turned in
No real focus
Poor grammar, etc.
No sources
No presentation

Discussion Boards (if assigned)

1. Make intelligent contributions to the class discussion board. These contributions should not simply reiterate (repeat) what a previous classmate has written. They should contain new information or thought process. A good rule of thumb is to include at least 3-4 sentences per question for every discussion board post. You must contribute to discussion at least once each week for the entire semester. I will randomly check five discussion board posts for grading. Each thoughtful, intelligent contribution will count for 20 points (for a total of 100 points for the semester). Discussion Board posts using the following rubric:
 1. Superior attention given to a thoughtful, intelligent contribution; response consists of at least 3-4 sentences of original thought for each question answered (including responses to at least two classmates) – 15-20 points
 2. Adequate attention given to a thoughtful, intelligent contribution; response includes 2-3 sentences of original thought for each question answered (including responses to at least two classmates) – 11-15 points
 3. Minimal attention given to a thoughtful, intelligent contribution; response includes 1-2 sentences of original thought for each question answered (including responses to at least two classmates) – 5-10 points
 4. A sample discussion board post can be found in Module 1 in Content in eLearn.
 5. Participate and collaborate constructively with peers. Be respectful toward all members of the class and their views even if those views differ from your own. When you disagree, express your opinion in a respectful way. Please avoid personal or insulting remarks. Keep an open mind. We can learn a lot from other people and their views!

Discussion board posts are due by 11:30 P.M. on each Friday night during the week the units are covered.

Grading Scale

A	900-1,000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	599 and below

Assignments

Assignments and Project Summary

Graded Item	Points Available
Discussion Boards (20 points each) *5 Chapters Randomly Graded	100
Book Creator	250
4 Unit Exams (100 points each)	400
Comprehensive Final Exam	150
Attendance	100
Total Points	1,000

Reading Notes **OR** Quizzes (if assigned)

Reading Notes

You will define/describe 5 ideas/concepts you thought were most important in each Chapter and provide examples of how these concepts relate to your personal knowledge/experience. Do not copy and paste definitions or other information from the textbook or other sources. This is plagiarism and will not be tolerated. I will use Turnitin for Reading Note submissions. A good rule of thumb is to include about 3-5 sentences per term. Each set of notes is worth 10 points. Reading Notes are due into the Drop box the Monday of each week for the chapters covered that week, with the exception of Week 1 when they are due by Friday. A sample copy of a set of reading notes can be found in the Writing Assignments module in Content in eLearn. Reading Notes will be graded in the following way:

Criteria	3.5 points	7 points	10 points
Criterion 1	Minimal attention given to defining terms; only 1-2 sentences provided relating terms to personal knowledge/experience	Adequate attention given to defining terms; 2-3 sentences provided relating terms to personal knowledge/experience	Superior attention given to defining terms; at least 3-4 sentences provided relating terms to personal knowledge/experience

Quizzes

For each textbook chapter we cover with the exception Psychology in Action and the Applied Psychology and Psychology Careers Appendices there is a Chapter Quiz option available for you to take up to five times. Each Quiz will have 20 questions with each question being worth .5 point. Each quiz is randomly generated from a larger bank of questions. So, taking the Quiz multiple times will expose you to more questions. Only your highest attempt will be graded. Quizzes are due the Monday of each week for the chapters covered that week.



Grading Scale

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	59% and below

Assignments

All projects and assignments will be facilitated in eLearn.

Class Participation

Making frequent, intelligent contributions to the class discussions, while being respectful toward all members of the class and their views is the expected participation for the course. Each week, we will use technology such as e-learn, mobile apps, and web resources to augment our learning experience.

I will download attendance from Microsoft Teams for virtual learners.

Academic Honesty

Faculty expect all students to refrain from acts of academic misconduct including but not limited to:

1. Plagiarism - refers to using another person's ideas or writing without giving proper credit to the original source. Indulging in this type of conduct will subject the student to disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures of Walters State Community College as outlined in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for the paper/exam/presentation. Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions contained in the college Catalog/Student Handbook apply (see policy 04:18:02 Disciplinary Sanctions). Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Using cut/paste tool from original document with no references given.
 - b. Copying another student's work and submitting it as one's own.
 - c. Forging or otherwise altering signatures.
 - d. Giving or falsifying academic documents or materials.
2. Cheating - construed as attempting to deceive or mislead which includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Utilizing old tests, projects, notes or written papers.
 - b. Providing unauthorized information to a fellow student about exam content.
 - c. Receiving unauthorized aid from any source with quizzes, examinations, or other assignments.
 - d. Seeking information in an unacceptable manner during/preceding an exam or other assigned work (cheat sheet, verbal exchange, looking at another person's paper or electronic device, utilizing headphones, using textbook when the test/quiz is not an open book test/quiz, using textbook test bank etc.).
 - e. Consulting with a classmate or others when taking a computerized test.
 - f. Disregarding other specific policies and procedures outlined for a particular class.
 - g. Utilizing unapproved technology/electronic equipment during testing (i.e.: mobile devices such as cell phones, smart devices, or tablets, etc.).
 - h. Using the same Internet Protocol network address (IP address) as another student for testing without approval from the course faculty.
3. The use of any generative artificial intelligence (AI) tool, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google's Bard, or any other pre-trained language model (commonly referred to as "chatbot"), must be cited for any assignment where it has been used and may not be used unless specifically allowed by your instructor. Please see your instructor or the course policies within the syllabus if you have questions.

Student Resources

TUTORING SERVICES

Students in need of tutoring assistance are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Tutoring located as follows:

- Morristown Campus - Student Services Building Room L107 - (423) 585-6920
- Niswonger Campus - GRNV 226 - (423) 798-7982
- Sevierville Campus - MMH Room 210 - (865) 286-2787
- Claiborne Campus - Room 123A - (423) 851-4761

Specific tutoring assistance in mathematics and writing is available in-person and online as follows:

- Morristown Campus - English Learning Lab - HUM 120 - (423) 585-6970

[Walters State English Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab

- Morristown Campus - Mathematics Lab - MBSS 222 - (423) 585-6872

[Walters State Mathematics Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Students who need assistance with computing and technology issues should contact the IET Helpdesk by phone at Morristown: (423) 318-2742; Niswonger: (423) 798-8186; or Sevierville: (865) 286-2789 or on-line access.

[Walters State Helpdesk \(opens in new window\)](#)

helpdesk.ws.edu

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES

Students with disabilities must register with Student Support Services each semester in the Student Services Building, Room U134 (phone (423) 585-6892) if they need any special facilities, services, or consideration.

[Walters State Student Support Services \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/student-services/disability/

SUICIDE PREVENTION STATEMENT

Walters State is committed to and cares about all students. Support services are available for any person at Walters State who is experiencing feelings of being overwhelmed, hopelessness, depression, thinking about dying by suicide, or is otherwise in need of assistance. For immediate

help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 9-8-8 or the Trevor Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. Veterans may also contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or Text 838255.

Walters State has a relationship in place with the following community agencies to provide services (may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, etc.):

- Cherokee Health Systems 423-586-5032
- Frontier Health 423-467-3600

College Policies

STUDENTS HANDBOOK AS OFFICIAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT

This class is governed by the policies and procedures stated in the current Walters State Community College Student Handbook. All students attending Walters State Community College, regardless of the time, location, or format of the class, must abide by the rules and regulations outlined in the current Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook and the current Walters State Timetable of Classes.

[Walters State Catalog \(opens in new window\)](#)
catalog.ws.edu/

[Walters State Timetable of Classes \(opens in new window\)](#)
ws.edu/admissions/registration/

PURPOSE, LIMITATIONS AND MODIFICATION OF SYLLABUS

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to change at any time. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time with written notification to the students. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus for the semester/year specified in the Course Information section of the syllabus. This syllabus is only valid for the semester/year specified and course requirements are not guaranteed for future semesters.

COURSE GROUND RULES

- Students must attend the first day of on-ground class or contact the instructor prior to the first class. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class. Excessive absences may substantially lower the course grade.

- Regular class attendance is a student's obligation for any course regardless of format. (See the Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook). If a student misses class, it is his or her responsibility to contact the instructor regarding missed assignments and/or activities and to be prepared for the next class assignment.
- Students enrolled in web courses must follow the course attendance policy defined for online attendance during the first week of class and throughout the term. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class during week one OR may result in the accrual of absences which may negatively impact the student's grade in the course.
- Students who have not paid fees on time and/or are not correctly registered for this class and whose names do not appear on official class rolls generated by the Walters State student information system (MyWS) will not be allowed to remain in class or receive credit for this course.
- Electronic devices must not disrupt the instructional process or college-sponsored academic activity. Use of electronic devices is prohibited unless use of the device is relevant to the activity and use is sanctioned by the faculty member in charge. Electronic devices that are not relevant to the activity or sanctioned by the faculty member in charge should be set so that they will not produce an audible sound during classroom instruction or other college-sponsored academic activity.

FINANCIAL AID

Students receiving any type of financial aid or scholarship should contact the Financial Aid Office before making any changes to their schedule. Schedule changes without prior approval may result in loss of award for the current term and future terms.

All forms of student Financial Aid may be jeopardized or lost due to the lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress in one or multiple courses. Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress may negatively impact a student's degree/certificate completion pace and further jeopardize Financial Aid eligibility.

CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

For information related to the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather or other events, please check the Senators Emergency Text system or the college's Web site at:

[Walters State Homepage \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/home/

[Walters State Facebook page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/>

[Walters State Twitter page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://twitter.com/waltersstate>

or call the college's student information line, 1-800-225-4770, option 1; the Sevier County Campus, (865) 774-5800, option 7; the Niswonger Campus (423) 798-7940, option 7; or the Claiborne County Campus, 423-636-6200, option 7. Also, please monitor local TV and radio stations for further announcements.

When an event or disaster interrupts the scheduled operations of the college and the ability to proceed with the academic course activities as planned, the college and your instructor may alter the course plan outlined in the syllabus. Should an event occur, students should refer to their course e-Learn pages and/or class materials previously delivered to receive guidance from their instructor. Students should continue to monitor the official college channels of communication listed in the above paragraph. If you would like to sign up for the Senators Emergency Text system, please go to the following Web site:

[Senator Emergency Text System \(opens in new window\)](#)
ws.edu/set/

Dual Enrollment students attending on a high school campus should refer to the high school inclement weather cancellations.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Brightspace (commonly known as eLearn or D2L) is the college's Learning Management System (LMS).

Brightspace is committed to accessibility by "deliver[ing] a learning experience that meets the needs of all people, regardless of age or ability." [Brightspace Accessibility Standard \(opens in new window\)](#)

Brightspace is also committed to guarding student data and privacy. [Brightspace Privacy Policy \(opens in new window\)](#)