

PSY 1302-W01: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY*WEB-BASED COURSE*

Professor:	Dr. Bibiana M. Gutierrez	Cell/Text:	432.386.3223 must leave name & message for a response
Office:	Scheduled video appointments only; must request via email	Course Website:	http://sulross.blackboard.com
Email:	bmg15th@sulross.edu	<i>NO Zoom or set class time for this exclusively, web-based course</i>	

Optional Textbook: Feldman, Robert S., Understanding Psychology, 13th Edition, ISBN 978-1-259-33035-3. ***Chapter readings available on BlackBoard.***

Course Purpose: By the end of this course Students will be able to demonstrate:

1. A basic knowledge of the history, research methods, and statistics used in psychology.
2. Knowledge of learning, memory, cognition, language, and intelligence.
3. Gain insight into behavior through the understanding of motivation and emotion, sexuality, and development across the lifespan.
4. Familiarity with basic psychological principles including those related to personality, abnormal behavior and psychotherapy, biological psychology, stress and coping, states of consciousness.
5. Familiarity with major subfields of psychology, issues of diversity, and neuroscience.
6. Become an informed consumer of psychology and its applications in the 21st century.
7. Develop skills for social responsibility, including the abilities to develop principles of personal responsibility for living in a diverse world and to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making through application of the psychological principles and knowledge learned.
8. Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities learned through the application of psychological knowledge and principles learned.

Student Learning Objectives: The graduating psychology student will attain a level of competency in the areas of . . .

- a. Biological psychology indicating that value has been added over the course of their psychology education.
- b. Clinical-personality psychology indicating that value has been added of the course of their psychology education.
- c. Social psychology indicating that value has been added over the course of their psychology education.
- d. Experimental methods indicating that value has been added over the course of their psychology education.
- e. QEP Communication

Psychology Program Marketable Skills:

- f. Speaking Effectively: Students will demonstrate competency in public speaking and communicating scientific information to diverse audiences.
- g. Describing Feelings: Students will demonstrate empathic or active listening and conversational skills, and/or write clearly about their affective stance, respectfully attuned to the needs of their audiences.
- h. Identifying Resources: Students will demonstrate the aptitude to locate, organize and evaluate the credibility of information from multiple sources.
- i. Analyzing: Students will demonstrate ability to examine the underlying issues of scientific problems, attending to the pertinent details and creating action plans, recognizing ambiguity and complexity as essential components.

Distance Education Statement: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

Course Policies:

1. Attendance and Class preparation:

Class attendance is governed by the SRSU policy stated in the schedule of classes. Students will be dropped with an "F" when you have accumulated six (6) or more absences OR the equivalent in a web-based course. Class attendance in this course includes logging onto Black Board during the first week of class, taking exams and submitting posts on time, etc.

2. Late Work and Make-Up Assignments:

If you cannot participate in this web-based class due to an emergency, excused-absence, or university-authorized absence, inform the professor as soon as possible via email of the situation. Late or make-up assignments and exams will only be accepted in the case of an emergency or excused absence with appropriate documentation (doctor's note, etc.)

Students absent for a *university-authorized activity* (such as a game, tournament, or event) will be allowed to make up the missed exam and/or complete the assignment scheduled for that day. **However**, it is the Student's responsibility to make these **arrangements for make-up exams/assignments with the professor BEFORE the absence via email request**. This **DOES NOT INCLUDE** absences related to paid (SRSU or otherwise) employment.

4. If You Get/Are Sick:

Student health services (<https://www.sulross.edu/page/343/student-health-services>) is staffed by a registered nurse located in University Center Suite 211 from 8 am- 5 pm Monday through Friday. Minor treatments, over-the-counter medication and basic first-aid supplies are available at no cost to Students. SRSU has a Student medical agreement with Preventive Care Health Services (PCHS) to provide limited outpatient care, see covered services. The clinic is located opposite Alpine High School across State highway 118 North with parking off Anson Avenue from 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday and the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9 am to 3 pm. To schedule an appointment, call (432) 837-4555. Your current Student ID card will be requested at check-in.

5. Students with Special Needs:

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities and it is the Student's responsibility to initiate the request. **Please contact the Accessibility Services Coordinator, Ferguson Hall (Room 112) at 432.837.8203; mailing address is P.O. Box C-171 Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Students should then contact the instructor as soon as possible to initiate the recommended accommodations.**

6. Religious Observance:

Any student absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day will be allowed to take make-up the exam/assignment scheduled for that day. Arrangements for missing class due to a religious observance must be made with the professor via email ***BEFORE*** that absence.

7. Course Behaviors - Respect and Disruptions:

Watch the **VIDEO on NETIQUETTE** on Black Board. You are encouraged and expected to openly engage in discussions, ask questions, share ideas, and express your thoughts in this web-based course in the same manner as in a face-to-face course. Please treat each other with dignity and respect and avoid disruptive behaviors. You are responsible for knowing what behaviors are acceptable versus unacceptable as referred to in the Student Conduct and Discipline section of the SRSU Student Handbook

(http://www.sulross.edu/sites/default/files//sites/default/files/users/docs/stulife/student_conduct_discipline.pdf).

8. Academic Integrity:

Any instance of academic misconduct such as turning in an identical written assignment for another course without approval, cheating and plagiarizing written assignments, collusion, or misrepresenting facts will be punished to the full extent of the university's disciplinary policy and/or through legal action if indicated. You are responsible for reading the statement on *Academic Honesty* in the SRSU Student Handbook

(http://www.sulross.edu/sites/default/files//sites/default/files/users/docs/stulife/student_conduct_discipline.pdf). The faculty considers academic dishonesty to be a serious matter and will act accordingly. Students caught engaging in any form of academic dishonesty will receive no credit for assignments/exams and more severe penalties may be pursued, including but not limited to failing the course.

9. Communicating with the Professor:

The best way to contact me is through email at bmg15th@sulross.edu. I strive to respond as soon as possible. If you do not receive a reply within 24 to 48 hours, please resend your email or call my office at 432.837.8163 and leave a message if unavailable. During weekends, holidays, and breaks there may be a longer delay in a response until the next regular workday.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Regular and active Black Board Participation (BP = 100 points).** Your individual activity on black board will be monitored via logs maintained by Black Board. It is your responsibility to check your email daily and for any announcements related to this course. (This is a subjective judgment on my part regarding the quality of your participation, taking exams when scheduled, submitting assignments on time, and posting as required by due dates).
2. **Complete ORIENTATION TO BLACK BOARD (OBB = 25 points)** which includes the **SYLLABUS QUIZ**.
3. **Fourteen (14) Exams (each EXM = 100 points; 1400 total points).** ***There are ABSOLUTELY NO MAKE-UPS on the Final Exam which is NOT cumulative.*** All EXAMS are open book and notes.
4. **Discussion Posts (DP = 20/post; 300 pts total)** (paragraph in the range of 3 to 4 sentences or more if you wish) of your thoughts, feelings, ideas, and/or reactions to your chapter readings as related to your experience and/or other things you have learned. ***These summaries will be posted publicly for all students in the course to view*** for the purpose of creating a sense of universality of experience and enhancing shared learning. It can also be a

spring-board to encourage conversations (threads) among students if you wish. ***Please be mindful that once posted, your posts cannot be changed or deleted, and are monitored by the professor.***

5. **Summary Paper (SP = 50 points).** A summary of your experience in this course, what you learned, how you may have changed, future aspirations, etc. ***Does not need to be in any specific writing format.*** 😊 **Your work will be graded on organization, grammar, spelling, and quality of effort.** Paper must be 2-3 pages double-spaced.

GRADE SCALE:

90–100 = A; 80–89 = B; 70–79 = C; 60–69 = D; 0–59 = F

PLEASE READ: During the course of this class, Students may have strong emotional/psychological reactions to the course material and/or discussions. If at Student feels they are having difficulty with the learning environment, please discuss this with the professor immediately before continuing the course. Counseling and Accessibility Services (<http://www.sulross.edu/section/2408/counseling-accessibility-services>) can provide brief, short-term individual and group counseling or refer you to off-campus providers. You have already paid for these services through your Student Service Fee, whether you use them or not.

If you have any issue or concern, I would appreciate you speaking with me first. If you feel we cannot come to a reasonable resolution, know that you can speak with the BASS Department Chair, Dr. Mark Saka (432.837.8157) regarding your concerns.

I endeavor to maintain a safe as possible learning environment for all and expect the highest standard of conduct from each one of us and the collective. I welcome constructive feedback in the service of this goal.

This syllabus is accurate to the best of my ability, but I reserve the right to modify it at any time and will inform you as soon as possible when I do. If I do make any changes, I aspire to do so for the reasons of Student fairness and/or circumstances beyond my control.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 (8/23-8/29)

READ Syllabus, Preface xxv – xxxviii, Chapter1 (by Friday 8/27)

SYLLABUS QUIZ and **START HERE** orientation to BLACK BOARD (by Sunday 8/30 *midnight*)

POST1 *Introduce yourself* and **Chapter 1** (by Sunday 8/29 *midnight*)

Week 2 (8/30-9/5)

READ Chapter 2 Psychological Research (by Friday 9/3)

POST2 Over Chapter 2 by Sunday 9/5 *midnight*)

EXAM1 over **Chapters 1** Available on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 8/30) CLOSES midnight (Friday 9/3)**

Week 3 (9/6-9/12)

READ Chapter 3 Neuroscience and Behavior (by Friday 9/10)

POST3 over **Chapter 3** (by Sunday 9/12 *midnight*)

EXAM2 over **Chapter 2** on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 9/6) CLOSES midnight (Friday 9/10)**

Week 4 (9/13-9/19)

READ Chapter 4 Sensation and Behavior (by Friday 9/17)

POST4 Over Chapter 4 (by Sunday 9/19 *midnight*)

EXAM3 over Chapter 3 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 9/13) CLOSES midnight (Friday 9/19)**

Week 5 (9/20-9/26)

READ Chapter 5 States of Consciousness (by Friday 9/24)

POST5 Over Chapter 5 (by Sunday 9/26 *midnight*)

EXAM4 over Chapter 4 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 9/20) CLOSES midnight (Friday 9/24)**

Week 6 (9/27-10/3)

READ Chapter 6 Learning (by Friday 10/1)

POST6 Over Chapter 6 (by Sunday 10/3 *midnight*)

EXAM5 over Chapter 5 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 9/27) CLOSES midnight (Friday 10/1)**

Week 7 (10/4-10/10)

READ Chapter 7 Memory (by Friday 10/8)

POST7 Over Chapter 7 (by Sunday 10/10 *midnight*)

EXAM6 over Chapter 6 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 10/4) CLOSES midnight (Friday 10/9)**

Week 8 (10/11-10/17)

READ Chapter 8 Cognition and Language (by Friday 10/15)

POST8 Over Chapter 8 (by Sunday 10/17 *midnight*)

EXAM7 over Chapter 7 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 10/11) CLOSES midnight (Friday 10/15)**

Week 9 (10/18-10/24)

READ Chapter 9 Intelligence (by Friday 10/22)

POST9 Over Chapter 9 (by Sunday 10/24 *midnight*)

EXAM8 over Chapter 8 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 10/18) CLOSES midnight (Friday 10/01)**

Week 10 (10/25-10/31)

READ Chapter 10 Motivation and Emotion (by Friday 10/29)

POST10 Over Chapter 10 (by Sunday 10/31 *midnight*)

EXAM9 over Chapter 9 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 10/25) CLOSES midnight (Friday 10/29)**

Week 11 (11/1-11/7)

READ Chapter 11 Sexuality and Gender (by Friday 11/5)

POST11 Over Chapter 11 (by Sunday 11/7 *midnight*)

EXAM10 over Chapter 10 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 11/1) CLOSES midnight (Friday 11/5)**

Week 12 (11/8-11/14)

READ Chapter 12 Development (by Friday 11/12)

POST12 Over Chapter 12 (by Sunday 11/14 *midnight*)

EXAM11 over Chapter 11 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 11/8) CLOSES midnight (Friday 11/12)**

Week 13 (11/15-11/21) - MIDTERM

READ Chapter 14 Health Psychology (by Friday 11/19) **(SKIP CHAPTER 13; NO POST13)**

POST14 Over Chapter 14 (by Sunday 11/21 *midnight*) **(NO POST13)**

EXAM12 over Chapter 12 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 11/15) CLOSES midnight (Friday 11/2)**

Week 14 (11/22-11/28)

Thanksgiving Week – no classes 11/24-26

Week 15 (11/29-12/5)

Dead Day 12/2

READ Chapter 15 Psychological Disorders (by Friday 12/3)

POST15 Over Chapter 15 (by Sunday 12/5 *midnight*)

FINAL EXAM14 over Chapter 14 on Black Board (90 mins to complete) **Open from 8am (Monday 11/29) CLOSES midnight (Friday 12/3)** **(NO EXAM13) ABSOLUTELY NO MAKE UP EXAMS – NO EXCEPTIONS**

Week 16 (12/6-12/13)

SUMMARY PAPER due 12/6 (50 points)

It is your responsibility to make sure you have completed all your Discussion Posts, Exams, etc. verify in My Grades in Black Board BY 12/6

Your lowest exam grade will be dropped once you submitted all of your assignments and before submitting your final grade.

[12/8 FINAL GRADES DUE FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS DUE BY NOON] – Email to remind me!

12/11 Graduation

[12/13 FINAL GRADES DUE FOR CONTINUING STUDENTS DUE BY NOON]

**THE MOST CURRENT VERSION OF THIS SYLLABUS WILL ALWAYS BE LOCATED ON THE
BLACK BOARD ASSOCIATED WITH THIS COURSE**

This syllabus is accurate to the best of my ability, but I reserve the right to modify it at any time and will inform you as soon as possible. If I do make any changes, I aspire to do so for the reasons of Student fairness and/or circumstances beyond our control.