

**PSYC 1630.004**  
**GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY I**  
**UNT Spring 2026**  
**Location: GAB 104, MWF 9:00-9:50 AM**

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**Office hours** Appointments available in person or through Zoom

**Outside of the textbook, my Teaching Assistant (TA) is primarily responsible for assignment grading and should be the first point of contact for grading of assignments.**

**Welcome to PSYC 1630 (Section 4), General Psychology I.**  
**I hope that you will enjoy learning about the human mind and behavior!**

### **Course Description**

This course will introduce psychology as a scientific discipline and a profession. Emphasis will be placed on the diverse theoretical approaches within psychology and applications of these theories. We will broadly cover core areas in psychology: research methods, behavioral neuroscience, social and cultural psychology, cognitive psychology (e.g., perception, learning), human development, personality, stress and well-being, psychological disorders and their treatment. By the end of the course, students will be able to identify and describe the basic methodologies and theories of these topics. I hope to spark some level of curiosity and wonder about psychology as well as cultivate some particular interest in at least one area of psychology. I also hope that you will be able to relate some psychology topics to your own life and experiences. Lastly, I hope that this course will help to encourage an appreciation of diversity in backgrounds, thoughts, and experiences among individuals and offer a learning environment where students feel comfortable presenting their perspectives respectfully to facilitate the exchange of ideas in an inclusive manner.

### **Course Objectives**

- CO 1. Critique original scientific research in the field of psychology and the research methodology used
- CO 2. Apply scientific principles/theory to real-life scenario or problem.
- CO 3. Identify historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.
- CO 4. Describe social and psychological principles of human behavior.
- CO 5. Discuss the major psychological disorders, their causes, and treatments.
- CO.6. Describe physiological principles of human behavior.

### **Required Textbook**

Kassin, S., Privitera, G., & Clayton, K. *Essentials of Psychology*. First Edition, SAGE Publishing.

## Course Technology and Skills

For this course, you will need access to an electronic device such as a computer/laptop/tablet with reliable internet access. Further, to succeed in this course, you will need to be able to download and upload files, send and receive emails, and use CANVAS.

## Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with CANVAS or other technology issues.

**UNT Help Desk:** [UNT Student Help Desk site \(http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm\)](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

**Email:** [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

**Phone:** 940-565-2324

**In Person:** Sage Hall, Room 130 **Walk-In**

**Availability:** 8am-9pm **Telephone**

**Availability:**

- Sunday: noon-midnight, Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight, Friday: 8am-8pm, Saturday: 9am-5pm

**Laptop Checkout:** 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help

(<https://community.Canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

## Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
- Use your critical thinking to challenge others’ ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Do not use ALL CAPS when communicating digitally, as this may be interpreted as YELLING!
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using “text-talk” and proofread and fact-check your sources.

See these Engagement Guidelines (<https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips>) for more info.

## Course Requirements

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Points Possible</i>	<i>% of Final Grade</i>
Chapter Tests (11)—lowest score dropped (highest 10 scores will count)	15 points each (150 points total)	50%
Discussion Assignments (7)—lowest score dropped (highest 6 scores will count)	15 points each (90 points total)	30%
Research Participation	30 points	10%
Wellness Intervention Assignment	30 points	10%
<b>Total Points Possible</b>	<b>300 points</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Chapter Tests:** There will be 11 Chapter Tests to be taken after reading each chapter, which will be worth up to 15 points each. These Chapter Tests will be made accessible through the SAGE Vantage textbook at the end of each assigned chapter. The lowest score on the Chapter Tests will be dropped.

**Discussion Assignments:** There will be 7 discussion assignments each worth up to 15 points: one discussion assignment to simply introduce yourself, one end-of-semester discussion topic to be assigned, and five discussion boards that will involve interacting with your classmates. For each discussion board involving interaction with classmates, students are to write an initial post in response to the discussion topic (worth up to 10 points), and students then are expected to respond to at least two classmates (worth up to 5 points), for a total of up to 15 points. The lowest score on the Discussion assignments will be dropped.

### Research Participation

The UNT Psychology Department requires that 10% of your grade is earned by completing the [SONA](#) research requirement. You are expected to earn **10 credits** by participating in psychology studies and/or writing summaries of research papers. If you have questions about SONA, most can be answered on the [SONA help page](#). Other questions can be sent to [untsonarep@yahoo.com](mailto:untsonarep@yahoo.com)

### Research Studies

You must be 18 years or older to participate in research studies. To participate in research studies [click here](#) to create an account. Once you create an account, you will be able to find and sign up for studies that interest you. The last day to participate in a study is **Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> by 5 PM.**

### Research Summaries

Each successfully completed summary is worth up to 4 credits. If you would like feedback on your summary and a chance for revision, email your summary to [untsonarep@yahoo.com](mailto:untsonarep@yahoo.com) before **Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5 PM.** The final due date for summaries is **Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> by 5 PM.**

## Grading

The grading scale for this course is below. There will be no rounding up of final grades.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Points</b>
A	270 or more
B	240-269
C	210-239
D	180-209
F	179 or less

**SONA Extra Credit:** You can earn extra credit by earning more than the required 10 SONA research credits. You can earn up to an additional 5 extra credits through SONA beyond the required 10, with each additional extra credit worth 3 class points (the same amount of points that each of the 10 required SONA research credits are worth). In other words, in terms of total SONA credits, I will allow a maximum of 15 to be counted toward your course grade (10 required SONA research credits + up to 5 additional SONA extra credits).

**Pre-Post Quizzes (extra-point opportunity):** Two online quizzes will be administered through Canvas, one close to the beginning and the other close to the end of the semester. These two quizzes technically are surveys, as they are intended to survey student knowledge and thus are not scored based on the accuracy of answers. Every student who completes Pre-Post Quiz #1 will receive two extra points, and every student who completes Pre-Post Quiz #2 will receive three extra points (up to a possible total of 5 extra points).

## Course Evaluation

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is the student evaluation system for UNT and allows students the ability to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the quality of student experiences in the course. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

## Course Policies

### 1. Exams and Assignments

In addition to guidance from the Tentative Course Schedule provided (see end of syllabus), the due dates and details for each respective exam or assignment will be announced through Canvas.

### 2. Technological Issues

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the **UNT Student Help Desk: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu) or 940.565.2324** and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

### 3. Make-Up Assignments and Late Work

I generally will not accept late work in this course. All work turned in after the deadline will receive a grade of zero, except in some rare cases in which the student has a university-excused absence (obtained by sharing documentation with the Dean of Students office at [deanofstudents@unt.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@unt.edu)) or gives a reasonable justification to the Instructor ahead of time. Even then, the Instructor ultimately decides if a late assignment or make-up will be allowed.

### 4. Withdrawals, Incompletes, and Grade Appeals

If the student is doing poorly in the course, it is the student's responsibility to drop or withdraw from the course before the appropriate deadline. If it is too late to drop or withdraw from the course, a mark of "Incomplete" will not be assigned (unless the requirements for obtaining an "I" are met as noted below); rather the student will be assigned the actual grade earned. An Incomplete ("I") is a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a term/semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course and (2) has justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule. The student must arrange with the instructor to finish the course at a later date by completing specific requirements. These requirements must be listed on a Request for Grade of Incomplete form signed by the instructor, student, and department chair and must be entered on the grade roster by the instructor. All grade appeals from students will be addressed according to UNT Policy 06.040 found here: [https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.040\\_GradeAppeals\\_2017.pdf](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.040_GradeAppeals_2017.pdf)

## **5. Attendance Policy**

Attendance is not mandatory, but excessive absences can negatively impact your grade.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

As the instructor in this course, I will strive to be prepared for each class, to be available for consultation during the week, conduct fair evaluations of learning, and make the material accessible to you outside of class. As a student in this class, you are responsible for (a) attending lecture and completing reading assignments prior to class, (b) participating in any class activities, (c) obtaining notes (from a fellow classmate) and learning of missed announcements in the event of an absence, (d) submitting any and all assignments on time, and (e) checking CANVAS consistently for announcements, messages, and assignment information.

## **UNT Policies**

### **1. Academic Integrity Policy**

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

### **2. ADA Policy**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the ODA website at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

### **3. Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)**

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

### **4. Emergency Notification & Procedures**

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

## 5. Retention of Student Records

Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy.

## 6. Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's Code of Student Conduct (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>) to learn more.

## 7. Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu) All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (<https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect>).

## 8. Student Evaluation Administration Dates

The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the semester to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([no-reply@iasystem.org](mailto:no-reply@iasystem.org)) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey, they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu)

## 9. Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone else experiences sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at [oeo@unt.edu](mailto:oeo@unt.edu) or at (940) 565 2759.

Please be aware that UNT policy (See <http://policy.unt.edu/policy/12-005>) based on Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681(a); See <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/title-ix-and-sexual-assault>) entails a duty for institutional employees to report to the university any knowledge regarding recent events of sexual misconduct involving students or employees. Additionally, if you report any information indicating you have been a victim of sexual harassment or assault, dating violence, or stalking being a student or employee at UNT, I am required to report this to concerned authorities as mandated by Texas State Law.

## 10. Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

### Federal Regulation

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website (<http://www.ecfr.gov/>). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G). The paragraph reads: (G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

### University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

- (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
- (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this. Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about their need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email [internationaladvising@unt.edu](mailto:internationaladvising@unt.edu)) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

## 11. Student Verification

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses. See UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002>).

## 12. Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g., software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

## Academic Support & Student Services

*Mental Health.* UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- Student Health & Wellness Center (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
- Counseling and Testing Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- UNT Care Team (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
- UNT Psychiatric Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)
- Individual Counseling (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

### *Additional Student Support Services*

- Registrar (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
- Financial Aid (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
- Student Legal Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)
- Career Center (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
- Multicultural Center (<https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center>)
- Counseling and Testing Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- Learning Center: <https://learningcenter.unt.edu/>
- Pride Alliance (<https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance>)
- UNT Food Pantry (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)

### *Academic Support Services*

- Academic Resource Center (<https://clear.unt.edu/Canvas/student-resources>)
- Academic Success Center (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
- UNT Libraries (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
- Writing Lab (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)

## SEMESTER DROP DATES

April 10<sup>th</sup> Last day to drop a course or all courses with a grade of W through [my.unt.edu](https://my.unt.edu)

April 11<sup>th</sup> Can begin request for a grade of “I” (Incomplete)

## Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Dates	Textbook Readings	Assignments
1	1/14 and 1/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Syllabus and course introduction</li> <li>• Start reading Chapter 1</li> <li>• Chapter 1 lecture</li> </ul>	Register for Sage Vantage textbook Initial Discussion (Introduce yourself)
2	1/21 and 1/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 lectures</li> <li>• Start reading Chapter 2</li> </ul>	Pre-Post Quiz #1 Chapter Test (1)
3	1/26-1/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 lectures</li> <li>• Start reading Chapter 3</li> </ul>	Chapter Test (2) Discussion Board (1)

4	2/2-2/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 3 lectures</li> <li>Start reading Chapter 5</li> </ul>	Chapter Test (3) Discussion Board (2)
5	2/9-2/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 5 lectures</li> <li>Start reading Chapter 8</li> </ul>	Chapter Test (4)
6	2/16-2/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 8 lectures</li> <li>Start reading Chapter 9</li> </ul>	Chapter Test (5) Discussion Board (3)
7	2/23-2/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 9 lectures</li> <li>Start reading Chapter 10</li> </ul>	Chapter Test (6) Wellness Intervention Assignment Discussed
8	3/2-3/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 10 lectures</li> <li>Start reading Chapter 11</li> </ul>	Chapter Test (7) Discussion Board (4)
9	3/9-3/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SPRING BREAK!!!</b></li> </ul>	
10	3/16-3/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 11 lectures</li> <li>Start reading Chapter 12</li> </ul>	Chapter Test (8)
11	3/23-3/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 12 lectures</li> <li>Start reading Chapter 13</li> </ul>	Chapter Test (9)
12	3/30-4/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 13 lectures</li> <li>Start reading Chapter 14</li> </ul>	Chapter Test (10) Discussion Board (5)
13	4/6-4/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 14 lectures</li> </ul>	Chapter Test (11)
14	4/13-4/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul>	End-of-semester Discussion (topic to be announced)
15	4/20-4/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul>	Pre-Post Quiz #2 Wellness Intervention Assignment Due
16	4/27-5/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No class meetings this week</li> </ul>	