

**GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY I: PSYC 1630 SEC. 005,
FALL 2025, Wednesday 4:00-6:50 PM, SAGE 116**

Instructor: Professor Craig Neumann
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Course description-

This course provides an introductory understanding of the nature of psychology with emphases on the study of bio-psycho-social aspects of human behavior, personality, mental health, and how individuals interact with and are influenced by others. The course format is in-class lectures. To successfully complete this course, you should be engaged—i.e., read the assigned material before attending lectures, take useful notes, see TAs as needed.

Course requirements & prerequisites-

Text: Kassir, S., Privitera, G. J., & Clayton, K. D. (2022). **Essentials of psychology**. SAGE Publications.

Exams, assignment & grades: There will be 4 multiple-choice exams given on CANVAS (each worth 50 points). Your grade will be based on the best 3 exam scores, PLUS your grade for the Signature Assignment (20 points). Exams will only cover the chapters listed for each exam. Make-up exams will only be given upon verification of justifiable absences (e.g., written doctors excuse for medical illness, certificate of death in the family). Grades will be computed as such: 3 exams X 50 pts. = 150 + 20 (170 Total points). Extra credit is added to point total.

A = 153 – 170; B = 136 – 152; C = 119 – 135; D = 102 – 118; F = 101 & below

Extra credit for experimental participation is allowed for this course for up to 10 points. No student under 18 can participate as a subject in research unless the consent form is signed by a parent or legal guardian.

Attendance: Students are encouraged to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

Notices: This syllabus is not a binding contract and is subject to change. The University of North Texas is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 – The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.unt.edu/oda/apply/index.html. Also, you may visit the Office of Disability Accommodation in the University Union (room 321) or call (940) 565-4323. You may want to visit the Office of Disability Accommodations website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda/pfs/taglines.html> to view the current changes. The Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) is essential for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SPOT to be an important part of your participation in this class. If you take an "I" (Incomplete) in any course, you must complete the work and have the "I" removed within one year or you must re-enroll in the course again.

CLASSES	CHAPTER	TOPIC	WEEK
8/20			1
.....	1	Psychology & Its Methods	
8/27			2
.....	1-2	Psych. & Methods/Behavioral Neuroscience	
9/3			3
.....	2-3	Behavioral Neuroscience/Sensation / Perception	
9/10			4
.....	3	Sensation / Perception	
9/17			5
.....	***EXAM 1.... Chapters 1-3 (Taken on CANVAS, no class lecture)		
9/24			6
.....	5	Learning	
10/1			7
.....	6	Learning / Memory	
10/8			8
.....	8	Personality	
10/15			9
.....	***EXAM 2.... Chapters 5, 6, 8 (Taken on CANVAS, no class lecture)		
10/22			10
.....	9	Development	
10/29			11
.....	10	Social Cultural	
11/5			12
.....	11	Motivation / Emotion	
11/12			13
.....	***EXAM 3.... Chapters 9,10,11 (Taken on CANVAS, no class lecture)		
11/19			14
.....	13	Psychological Disorders	
11/26			15
.....	Break	Thanksgiving	
12/3			16
.....	14	Treatment & Interventions	
12/3			16
***Signature Assignment Final Submission ***			
12/6****			16
.....	**** EXAM 4 Chapters 13-14 ...**(Taken on CANVAS, no class lecture)		

Dear Class,

I know it will be a joy to meet you all and spend time talking about psychology. Some of you are new to the college experience and may want to ask me how to go about passing this course. First and foremost, trust in yourself, and trust that you will find what works best for you in how to learn the material. Not all learning strategies work for all people. Here's how I would suggest you go about approaching this course.

1. **Read each chapter** in the textbook that is the assigned for this course, **before each lecture!** The textbook is listed on your syllabus--i.e.,

Kassin, S., Privitera, G. J., & Clayton, K. D. (2022). Essentials of psychology. SAGE Publications.

If this textbook is not in the bookstore (though it should be), then you can also find it online (for rent or purchase). Just use Google to find textbook via its title and first author name and it will pop up in many places.

2. Download from Canvas the PowerPoint slides (PPTs) for each chapter and use these to follow along with my lectures, especially the notes for each slide.

3. Take your own notes (either on paper or typed into a document). You can't (and should not try to) write down everything I say, but you can jot down terms and phrases I mention. For example, you might have taken notes on the idea of dualism, something like,

"Dualism idea--e.g., "interaction of non-material (spirit) and material (body)," or you might jot down, "mind (our subjective thoughts) versus the physical brain (nerves, brain chemical like dopamine)" "are thoughts the same as brain events?"

Class notes should help cue your understanding of the topic. Most times we understand something when it is said, but if we don't take down a few notes to help remind us of the idea, we forget it, or at least, fail to recall it correctly

4. Review your chapter, which may not involve re-reading it, but at least skimming keywords to refresh your understanding of the topic, and review the PPT slides, and your class notes. As much as you can review, the better you will develop a deep understanding of the material. To prepare for each exam, I would recommend 2-3 review sessions, before the exam

5. Trust that the review questions I will provide before each exam will provide you with a very clear sense of what types of questions will be asked for each exam and will help you prepare your study prep for the exams.

6. Use the course TAs and meet with them during their office hours if some of the material is just not making sense to you. They are here to help you! The contact info for each TA is also listed on the syllabus

7. Trust in me and know that I will work very hard for you so that you have success in passing this course.

8. Ask questions in class or point out if something I said doesn't make sense, or that I need to repeat it, if not during class, then afterwards