

University of North Texas at Dallas

FALL 2025

Syllabus for Introduction to Psychology (Online) - PSYC 1100 – 0071

Department of	Psychology	School of	Liberal Arts & Science
Instructor Name:	Kieth Gryder, Ph.D.		
Office Location:	Founders Hall 201E		
Email Address:	kieth.gryder@untdallas.edu		
Office Hours:	Monday – Thursday – 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Virtual) If the hours above do not work feel free to schedule a virtual meeting with me!		
Classroom Location:	Online		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	N/A		
Course Catalog Description:	This course offers a general understanding and application of the basic principles of psychology. Topics will include the history of psychology, scientific methods, physiological foundations of behavior, development, principles of learning, personality theory, abnormal behavior, and social psychology.		
Prerequisites:	None		
Required Text:	Ciccarelli, S., Noland White, J., (2025). <i>Psychology</i> , 7 th edition, Pearson, ISBN: 9780138162665 ISBN: 9780138162603		

Course Overview

This course serves as an overview of the major theories and scientific research examining the human mind and behavior and is an introduction to the wide-ranging field of psychology. Since this is a survey course, we will cover a broad view of many studies such as perception, cognition, memory, language, thoughts, development, personality, social interactions, motivation, and abnormal patterns of thoughts and behavior. In addition to covering the major theories of these domains, we will also come to see how psychology affects our everyday life.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1	Communication: Students will be able to demonstrate effective writing for different purposes, exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes and interact effectively with others.
2	Critical Thinking: Students will be able to use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena, engage in innovative and integrative thinking and problem solving, and interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research.
3	Ethical and Social Responsibility: Students will be able to apply ethical standards to psychological science and practice and adopt values that build community at local, national, and global levels.
4	Knowledge Base: Students will be able to describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, and will be able to describe applications of psychology.

Course Software

Canvas – I will post class materials as well as announcements for the class. ***It is your responsibility to regularly check the Announcements section of Canvas.*** It is the main way I will communicate important information to the class.

Microsoft Word – [download/installation guide](#) for MS-Office (also see the [DLIT page](#)).
Almost all assignments will require Microsoft Word.

Microsoft Forms – Occasionally I will use Microsoft Forms to do in class activities or take in-class quizzes. You can access Microsoft Forms through a computer or through your phone using your UNT Dallas email and password.

Distance Education Course Outline and Discussion Topics

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Canvas announcement. Additional readings and activities may be added, these will be noted in the Readings and Activities/Assignments sections.

Schedule	Topic	Activities	Due Date
Week 1 08/25	Introduction to Psychology	Read Chapter 1	08/31
		Quiz, LA #1	
Week 2 09/01	Biological Foundations	Read Chapter 2	09/07
		Quiz, LA #2	
Week 3 09/08	Sensation and Perception	Read Chapter 3	09/14
		Quiz, LA #3	
Week 4 09/15	Consciousness	Read Chapter 4	09/21
		Quiz, LA #4	
Week 5 09/22	Learning	Read Chapter 5	09/28
		Quiz, LA #5	
Week 6 09/29	Exam 1		
Week 7 10/06	Memory	Read Chapter 6	10/12
		Quiz, LA #6	
Week 8 10/13	Thinking, Intelligence, Language	Read Chapter 7	10/19
		Quiz, LA #7	
Week 9 10/20	Development	Read Chapter 8	10/26
		Quiz, LA #8	
Week 10 10/27	Motivation and Emotion	Read Chapter 9	11/02
		Quiz, LA #9	
Week 11 11/03	Exam 2		
Week 12 11/10	Sexuality and Gender	Read Chapter 10	11/16
		Quiz, LA #10	
Week 13 11/17	Social Psychology	Read Chapter 12	11/23
		Quiz, LA #11	
Week 14 11/24	Personality	Read Chapter 13	11/30
		Quiz, LA #12	
Week 15 12/01	Psychological Disorders	Read Chapter 14	12/07
		Quiz, LA #13	FINAL DEADLINE
Week 16 12/08	Exam 3		

Course Policies & Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Exams

There will be a total of **3 exams**. Exams may consist of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and short essay questions. Exams are not comprehensive. Questions on the exam are based on lecture material and assigned readings. You are responsible for all assigned textbook readings even if they are not covered in lecture. Exams will be completed online in Canvas.

Quizzes

There will be a total of **13 quizzes**. These quizzes are meant to test your knowledge from the readings and past lectures and show what you may need to revisit. They also allow me to assess how the class is doing and what, if any, class material should be covered again.

Quizzes will be administered online and each quiz will have two attempts. Both attempts must be completed by the associate deadlines listed in the course outline. The purpose of allowing two attempts is to for you to review what you missed and learn what the correct answer is through reviewing class materials.

I will drop your 2 lowest quiz grades.

Learning Assignments (LA)

There are a total of **13 Learning Assignments (LA)**. LAs focus on applying textbook content, supplementary materials, and previously assigned course content to yourself or to some novel problem. The purpose of the LAs are to practice pragmatic application, critical thinking, and give some repetition of central course concepts. I recommend reviewing relevant lecture material, clips and/or articles prior to beginning any LA. See the course outline to see which days each LA is due.

1 LA will be dropped.

All LAs will be turned in through Canvas.

Please see the statement at the end of this syllabus regarding the use of AI for course content. In short, it is not allowed unless I deem it so and if AI use is detected it will be considered plagiarism.

Late Work & Missed Exam Policy

Late Passes: All students will have **four** “late passes.” These passes can be used to extend the due date of any quiz or LA assignment by one week up until the final deadline. **No assignment or quiz can be extended beyond the final deadline.** Once you have used all your late passes, extensions on any assignment or quiz is subject to the instructor’s discretion.

Exams: If you know you will miss an exam, please reach out to me ahead of time so we can arrange the appropriate accommodation. Typically, exams will be made up within a few days. This flexibility is limited and I will not make up any exams beyond a week.

Quizzes and LAs: Submissions past the initial due date will be reduced by 10% per calendar late day (e.g., 20% reduction for an assignment two days late, 30% for three days late, and so on). This can be avoided by using one of the late passes, which extends deadlines by one week.

No assignment or quiz can be extended beyond the final deadline.

The four late passes, dropping one LA and two quizzes are designed to provide flexibility for life events. I do not give extensions beyond the policies listed above, except in extreme circumstances.

Attendance/Participation

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Please refer to Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at <https://untsystem.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1347&public=true>. Responsibility for class attendance rests with students. Regular and punctual attendance at all scheduled classes is expected. "Attendance" refers to attending the entire class session. A faculty member may treat a tardy, or an early departure, or leaving and returning to class as equivalent to an absence or a fractional part of an absence, provided that notice of the practice is provided in the first week of class in the syllabus. Attendance for this course is considered when you are logged in and active in Canvas, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course.

Refer to <http://www.untDallas.edu/registrar> for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

Grade policy

It will be your responsibility to monitor the progress of your course grade using the tables provided below. Please contact me if you have any questions about how to calculate your grade. If you have any concerns regarding your grade at any point, please contact me and we can address any concerns.

It will also be your responsibility to contact me as soon as possible if you are having difficulty understanding the course material.

Grading Timeline: While it is your responsibility to turn assignments in on time, it is my responsibility to grade and return them in a timely matter. As faculty we are asked to do this within two weeks of the assignment due date. I will do my very best to return each assignment within 7 working days from receipt.

Final Grades: Grades will not be changed after final grades for the semester are submitted, except in cases of documented errors in the computation of a student's total course points earned or in the recording of a student's grade. Students should retain all returned assignments until students have confirmed that the final grade has been computed and reported accurately. Please note that students must earn the exact number of points that correspond with the percentage associated with a particular letter grade to earn that grade.

Incompletes: Incompletes are generally reserved for students who have completed the majority of the coursework, but due to circumstances, are unable to complete the rest of the coursework. An incomplete will be granted at the instructor's discretion. If an incomplete is granted it is the student's responsibility to complete the coursework in accordance with University policy. If an incomplete is not granted, the student is responsible for all of the work assigned in the course during the current semester.

Email policy

Email is the official way to communicate in the course. To ensure effective and efficient communication between students and the instructor please observe the following:

- 1) In the subject line, place list the name of the course and/or course number (e.g., Introduction to Psychology/ PSYC1100) and sign the email with your full name. I teach several courses and lacking this makes it difficult to get back in a timely manner.
- 2) Student emails containing questions that can be answered by information in the syllabus will be redirected to said syllabus.
- 3) Describe the situation/concern/question you want addressed.

Grading Policy

Exams	100 Points each (Exams 1, 2, and 3) = 300 points
Quizzes	10 points each (130 total – 20 for 2 dropped quizzes) = 110 points
LAs	20 points each (260 total – 20 for 1 dropped LA) = 240 points
Total	$300 + 110 + 240 = 650$ total possible points

Grades are determined by percentage. To calculate your grade, take your total points and divide by the total possible points of the course (i.e., your total \div 650)

Letter	Percentage	Point Range
A	90 – 100	582 – 650
B	80 – 89	517 – 581
C	70 – 79	452 – 516
D	60 – 69	387 – 451
F	Less than 60	0 – 386

Rounding Policy

I will automatically round up when calculating your final grade percentage, with .5 being the cut off for rounding up.

For example: if you have a 72.5 as your final grade, I will round up to a 73 for your final grade.

Please do not email me regarding any additional rounding beyond this or on any individual assignments.

Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-1616 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/library email: library@untdallas.edu UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com
Supported Browsers: Chrome 67 & 68 Firefox 60 & 61 Flash 29, 30 (for audio/video) Respondus Lockdown Browser Safari 10, 11 Supported Devices: iPhone Android Chromebook <i>(Tablet users can use the Canvas app)</i> Screen Readers: VoiceOver (Safari) JAWS (Internet Explorer) NVDA (Firefox) <i>Note: There is no screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome</i>	Access Canvas via untdallas.instructure.com <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Username: your EUID # • Password: your password Getting Help with Canvas: Canvas 24/7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-668-8634 Canvas Help Resources: Web: Canvas Student Guide For additional assistance, contact Student Assistance (Distance Learning): DAL 1, Rm 157 phone: (972)338-5580 email: distancelearning@untdallas.edu <i>If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, make sure to keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress.</i> <i>If you have a course-related issue (course content, assignment troubles, quiz difficulties) please contact me during office hours or by email.</i>

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students:

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO 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, DSO 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/communicate 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 [Disability Services Office](#). You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDDisability@untdallas.edu or at Building PL, room 1104.

Disruptive Behavior in an Instructional Setting:

Students are expected to engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner at all times to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absent for that class period and any other classes the student misses as a result of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (Policy 7.001) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. [Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is also provided.](#)

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluation Policy:

Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. 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 students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to [UNT Dallas' Student Code of Academic Integrity](#) for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Inclement Weather and Classes: Classes may or may not be effected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Online "Netiquette":

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks)).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to [UNT Dallas Student Code of Conduct](#). Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

This is meant to be a safe environment for the exchange of ideas. Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate. Furthermore, please practice discretion when discussing personal matters and give others a chance to share.

Technology Assistance: In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus.

If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Student Assistance (Distance Learning) at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- [UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements](#)
- [Canvas Instructure Supported & Unsupported Operating Systems](#)

Statement Regarding Artificial Intelligence:

Students are only permitted to use AI technology in the creation of any course content if permitted by the course instructor. If the use of AI technology is detected, without specific instructor permission, the student will be deemed in violation of the plagiarism policy. In addition to reporting the violation, a sanction will be placed on the assignment that cannot be altered by syllabus mechanisms (e.g., dropping a grade).

Statement Regarding Material from Outside the Course:

Students are required to address all assignments and quizzes based on course material (textbook, lectures, and provided supplemental resources). Unless otherwise stated, any answers based on material outside of the course materials is subject to penalties at the discretion of the instructor.