

University of North Texas at Dallas
Spring 2012
SYLLABUS

PSYC 1650D-090: General Psychology		3Hrs	
Department of	Psychology	Division of	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Instructor Name:	<i>Madeline Rex-Lear, PhD.</i>		
Office Location:	<i>Adjunct Psychology Room 302 Building 2</i>		
Office Phone:	N/A		
Email Address:	Madeline.Rex-Lear@unt.edu or (rexlear@uta.edu for emergencies ONLY)		
Office Hours:	Mon 4-6 pm or by appointment		
Classroom Location:	DAL2 308		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	MONDAYS 7-9.50pm		
Course Catalog Description:	Nature of psychology with emphases on the physiological basis of behavior and psychological processes, including learning, motivation, perception and emotion. Satisfies the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement of the University Core Curriculum.		
Prerequisites:	N/A		
Co-requisites:	N/A		
Required Text:	Psychology and Life. 19th ed. Gerrig, R.J. & Zimbardo, P.G. (2010). Boston: Pearson.		
Recommended Text and References:	Reading Assignments: Students are expected to read in advance the chapters designated by week in the outline below; and any extra reading I assign.		
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fheg.follett.com		
Course Goals or Overview:			
	This course is designed as a general introduction to psychology as a scientific field as well as a profession. Emphasis will be placed upon the physiological basis of behavior and psychological processes. We will broadly cover many core areas in psychology, including memory, motivation, perception, and emotion. By the end of the course, students will gain a broad understanding of the diversity that exists within the field and become familiar with the basic methodologies and theories presented in class.		

Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will:	
1	Understand the psychological perspective and how it differs from other perspectives. The student will gain knowledge about psychology as a profession and the nature of the work that is done by psychologists.
2	Understand how psychological research is conducted and how to evaluate that research.
3	Have gained exposure to the biological and physiological bases of behavior.
4	Enhance their ability for critical thinking, develop problem solving skills, and learn to incorporate multiple viewpoints into analysis. He or she will be able to demonstrate competence in the application of psychology to a current topic.
5	Demonstrate an ability to engage with others in thoughtful and well-crafted communication through classroom discussions and interactions.
6	Understand different cognitive processes, and how people think and perceive their world affects memory systems.
7	Understand how emotions and stress can affect psychological health and function.

Course Outline

Course Evaluation Methods	
This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.	
<p>1) There will be four (4) equally weighted exams. The exams will cover lectures, videos and assigned textbook readings.</p> <p>THE LOWEST TEST GRADE WILL BE DROPPED.</p> <p>A student arriving late on an exam date will NOT be allowed to take the exam after the first completed exam is turned in.</p> <p>The tests themselves will consist of approximately 30-50 items, which primarily will be in multiple choice format, although other formats (e.g., fill in the blank, matching, short answer, and filling in graphs/tables) may be utilized as well. Items will come from the readings and the lectures. Additionally, short answer/essay items may be used to evaluate content mastery, analytical skills, and demonstrate critical thinking. Each exam will cover the most recent material. There will be no make-up exams. If you miss an exam that will be your one test score that is dropped. Overall grades will be based on the amount of points you have accumulated divided by the total number of points offered for the semester.</p> <p>There will also be in-class discussions and activities that students are expected to participate in on a regular basis</p> <p>Extra Credit: I may provide some opportunities throughout the semester to earn extra points - TBA</p>	
Grading Policy:	<p>Exams:</p> <p>Three examinations (100 points each) = 300 points</p> <p>Total possible points = 300</p> <p>A=270-300 points</p> <p>B=240-269 points</p> <p>C=210-239 points</p> <p>D=180-209 points</p> <p>F < 180 points</p>

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement 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 SETE 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 conduct and Academic Dishonesty 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 the Student Code of Conduct at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html for complete provisions of this code.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy: The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Attendance is mandatory and you are expected to be on time to all classes. Students will be responsible for all material covered in class. Note that material presented in lecture, including videotapes, may not be included in the readings. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if absent. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy: Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. 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 Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities as the instructor deems appropriate.

Optional Policies:

- **Use of Blackboard will be used to disseminate grades and relevant information**
- **Use of Cell Phones & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom- please turn phones off while in class**
- **Food & Drink in the Classroom – DO NOT bring food into class**
- **Use of Laptops will only be tolerated if not deemed disruptive to other students**
- **Grade of Incomplete, "I" (see UNTD catalog)**