Instructor: Jeff Swanson, MA  
Office: Life Science #521  
Email: jeffrey.swanson@mavs.uta.edu  
Office Hours: T, Th 10:15-11:15

Course Goals and Objectives:  
This course will cover a wide range of psychological concepts, theories, and topics. In particular, students will be exposed to various psychological fields, including social, personality, neurological, cognitive, developmental, and clinical psychology via the textbook, lectures, audio/visual media, class discussions, and activities.  
Successful completion of this course will lead students to a wide range of knowledge about psychology as an academic and applied discipline. Student will gain basic competency in the following areas: a) knowledge of major fields and approaches within psychology, b) grasp of basic methods of psychological research, and c) the application of psychology to “real-world” problems.

Required Textbook:

Course Requirements:

Participation and Attendance
Regular class attendance is not mandatory but is highly recommended. Students will be accountable for all lecture material, and each examination will contain questions from the readings and lectures.

Assignments
There will be four assignments to complete throughout the course, each worth 25 points. These will generally involve answering questions regarding an activity or paper or summarizing an article. Please see the tentative schedule for assignment topics. You will submit your assignments on WebCT before class on the day that they are due and bring a copy to the class for discussion as appropriate. For assignments that have definite answers, they will be provided to you during the next class.

Exams
Four exams will be given throughout the semester. Each exam will be worth 100 points and the lowest scoring exam will be dropped from your final grade. There will be no curve applied to scores. The exams will be structured with a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. Exam questions will be taken from class lectures and assigned readings. You are expected to on time during examination times. I will not give exams to any students who come in after the first exam is turned in. If you come in after this point, it will be considered a
“missed” exam. The first missed exam will be the exam dropped from your final grade, and subsequent missed exams will each receive a grade of 0.

Make-up exams will only be administered if the student provides a university approved excuse (see Catalog) or any documented catastrophic events. If students miss an examination due to a university-approved absence or any documented catastrophic event of which they provide written approval to the instructor, they will be given an equivalent make-up exam at a time approved by the instructor (i.e., not during class time). If students misses an exam due to unapproved reasons, they will not be able to make up the examination and will receive a zero on the examination missed.

Exams require the use of Scantrom Form No. 886-E Mini Essay Book.

Research Participation Requirement
Students enrolled in Psychology 1315 must complete a research participation requirement. Research participation is an experiential learning opportunity which enhances and deepens students’ understanding of and appreciation for the scientific study of psychology. This requirement may be satisfied by serving as a participant in psychological research or by summarizing and evaluating published studies, in journals or in other approved sources. More details will be provided in an orientation session and in an informational handout.

FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE REQUIREMENT WILL RESULT IN AN INCOMPLETE FOR THE CLASS. You will then need to complete your requirement during the next semester or the incomplete will turn into an F regardless of your academic standing. In order to satisfy this requirement, you MUST have an account in SONA, REGARDLESS of whether you participate in research or write reviews.

Grading
Final grades will be based on the three highest exam scores and the assignment grades. There are 400 points that can be earned during this course. All exam and assignment grades will be posted on WebCT. Final grade letters will be given according to the following scale:

A = 360-400 points
B = 320-359 points
C = 280-319 points
D = 240-279 points
F = < 240

Things you need to know:

Cell Phones, Tardiness, etc.
Please be respectful of the instructor and your fellow classmates. Silence cell phones before entering class and refrain from sending text messages during class. Please be on time and do not leave early without communicating your need to the instructor beforehand. Your thoughts and comments regarding the material are valuable and I encourage you to state them. However, do not be disruptive by interrupting or having conversations outside the scope of the class while the lecture is being conducted or another student is attempting to speak.
Electronic Communication Policy
I receive many e-mails throughout the semester. Please help me identify your e-mails by including “PSYC1315” in the beginning of the e-mail subject line, followed by the full subject of your e-mail.

The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the university email address as an official means of communication with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email.

All students are assigned an email account and information about activating and using it is available at www.uta.edu/email. New students (first semester at UTA) are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UTA. Students are responsible for checking their email regularly. I will only use your UTA email account when sending you information.

E-mail communication regarding class-related issues is encouraged with the following exceptions: 1) If a class is missed, do not send a message asking what was missed. 2) Do not depend on e-mail for prompt replies to time-sensitive matters. 3) Don’t begin emails to your instructors with “Hey,” and resist the urge to send emails with lol, omg, etc.

Borderline Grades Stay Borderline
Every semester some people score just below the borderline of the next highest grade. I have great sympathy for people who find themselves in that position, but I have also found that raising those grades simply uncovers more people whose grades are near the new borderline. This situation makes everybody edgy. Therefore, my policy must be that borderline grades stay borderline.

Student Evaluation of Teaching
Evaluation forms provided by the University will be used for student course evaluation. These evaluation forms will be completed by all students in attendance during one of the last classes.

Drop for non-payment of tuition
If you are dropped from this class for non-payment of tuition, you may secure an Enrollment Loan through the Bursar’s Office. You may not continue to attend class until your Enrollment Loan has been applied to outstanding tuition fees.

Grade Grievance Policy
The University Grade Grievance Policy will be followed. (See Grade Grievance Policy in the Graduate School Regulations and Information.)

Drop Policy
Please refer to university drop policy. Please also refer to the academic calendar (http://www.uta.edu/uta/acadcal/). The last day to drop classes is August 3rd, 2010.

Americans with Disabilities Act
The University of Texas at Arlington 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 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.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in room 102 of University Hall or call them at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Dishonesty**

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. More information can be found at http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/conduct/.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2) Sections of your work for which scholastic dishonesty has been detected will receive zero points and a disciplinary report will be filed. All students should review the tutorial on acknowledging sources available at http://libraries.uta.edu/ebarker/flashPlag/.

**Student Support Services Available**

The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals. Students could also take advantage of services offered by the UTA Counseling Services (272-3671) and SOAR (272-3684) which include seminars to improve note taking and study skills and also to develop time management skills. Library information can be obtained through Helen Hough, Psychology Librarian. Please contact her by phone (817-272-7429) or by email (hough@uta.edu). You will find useful information for psychology at http://libguides.uta.edu/psychology/.

**Bomb Threats**

If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA will attempt to trace the phone call and prosecute all responsible parties. Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentations/tests caused by the bomb threat. Unannounced alternate sites will be available for these classes. Your instructor will make you aware of alternate class sites in the event that your classroom is not available.
## Tentative Class Schedule:

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<td>Introduction to Course</td>
<td>Chapter 1, pp. 9-16 &amp; 24-25</td>
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<td>July 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; - 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Research Requirement Description</td>
<td>Chapter 2, pp. 31-46, 52-59</td>
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<td>What is Psychology?</td>
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<td>Psychology's Scientific Methods</td>
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<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>July 19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; - 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Sensation and Perception</td>
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<td>Memory</td>
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<td>Thinking, Intelligence, &amp; Language</td>
<td>Chapter 9, pp. 326-357</td>
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<td>Personality</td>
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<td>M-Th</td>
<td>Personality continued</td>
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<td>August 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; - 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
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<td>Industrial/Organizational Psychology</td>
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<td>Health Psychology</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>M-Th</td>
<td>Motivation and Emotion</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<td>Aug 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; - 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Chapter 14</td>
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<td>Therapies</td>
<td>Chapter 15</td>
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### Examination and Assignment Dates:

**Assignment 1:** Operationalization Assignment, Due Monday July 19<sup>th</sup>.  
**Assignment 2:** Classical vs. Operant Conditioning, Due Tuesday July 27<sup>th</sup>.  
**Assignment 3:** Journal Article Summary, Due Tuesday August 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
**Assignment 4:** Case Study Exercise, Due Wednesday August 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Exam 1:** Wednesday July 21<sup>st</sup>  
*Topics: What is Psychology; Psychology's Scientific Methods; Biological Foundations of Human Behavior; Sensation and Perception*

**Exam 2:** Thursday July 29<sup>th</sup>  
*Topics: Human Development; Learning; Memory; Thinking, Intelligence, & Language*

**Exam 3:** Thursday August 5<sup>th</sup>  
*Topics: Personality; Social Psychology; Industrial/Organizational Psychology; Health Psychology*

**Exam 4:** Monday August 16<sup>th</sup>  
*Topics: Motivation and Emotion; Psychological Disorders; Therapies*