



# PSYC 2301 – Introduction to Psychology

Course Syllabus: Spring 2026

*“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”*

**Instructor: J. Nicole Sutton**

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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
	By appt.		By appt.			

***This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.***

*Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.*

**Course Description:**

3 credit hours.

Lecture/Lab/Clinical: Three hours of lecture each week.

This course is an introduction to the fundamental principles of behavior. Special emphasis is placed on methods of research and critical thinking skills. This is a survey course and covers a variety of topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. PSYC 2301 is reading and writing intensive and is a college sophomore course.

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.**
- 2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.**
- 3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.**
- 4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.**
- 5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.**
- 6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.**

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

Grades will be computed as follows:

Study plans (participation grade)	10%
Chapter quizzes (average)	20%
Four exams	35%
Experimental design paper	10%
2 Summary papers (total)	10%
Reflections paper	15%

<b>Average</b>	<b>Grade</b>
90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
Below 60%	F

Quiz and Exam grades are typically returned to students within a few hours. Experimental Design and Summary paper grades will be returned to students within 2 weeks.

**Required Instructional Materials:**

Waymaker by Lumen materials are provided electronically with course costs. There are no additional course required materials to purchase.

**Publisher:** Lumen Learning

**Optional Instructional Materials:** None

**Minimum Technology Requirements:** Students must have access to a computer with Windows XP SP3 or later OR MAC OS X10.3 or higher. Students will also need Office 2003 or higher and broadband internet access. Computers are available for student use in the Learning Commons building if a student does not otherwise have access to adequate technology.

**Required Computer Literacy Skills:** Students will need to be able to navigate Blackboard to read the course materials and complete online assignments, use email, and type and print assignments.

**Course Structure and Overview:** Students will complete online study plans (readings) and quizzes for each chapter, 4 multiple-choice exams, an Experimental Design, 2 Summary Papers (summarizing select research articles), and a Reflections Paper. Self-Improvement opportunities and extra credit options are available throughout the semester to help students improve their overall grade in the course.

**Communications:** Students can expect my reply to any email correspondence within 12-24 hours, typically within a couple hours. **\*Reminder: NTCC email is the official form of communication used by the college.**

**Institutional/Course Policy:**

**Attendance/Participation Policy**

If you miss a class, you will be responsible for information covered/discussed that day. The instructor will not repeat the lecture. Most classes will include exercises and activities designed to increase your understanding of the material.

**Late Work Policy:**

Students are to submit assignments on or before the stated due date/time. Late assignments will only be accepted at the instructor's discretion and will not receive full credit. Emergency situations will be handled on an individual basis.

**Withdrawal Policy/Date:**

It is the student's responsibility to drop a course or withdraw from the college. If a student stops attending the course without withdrawing, he/she will still receive a grade, whether passing or failing.

**Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements**

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be

necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

**NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:**

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

**ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

**Tentative Course Timeline (\*note\* instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to this timeline at any point in the term):**

<b>Week</b>	
<b>1</b>	Welcome video, Introduction video, Syllabus Quiz, Introductory Discussion, Ch. 1 & Ch. 2 Study Plans, Power Points, & Quizzes
<b>2</b>	Experimental Design, Ch. 3 Study Plan, Power Point & Quiz <b>Exam 1</b>
<b>3</b>	Ch. 4 & 5 Study Plans, Power Points, & Quizzes
<b>4</b>	Ch. 6 & 7 Study Plans, Power Points, & Quizzes <b>Exam 2</b>
<b>5</b>	Ch. 8 Study Plan, Power Point, & Quiz Summary Paper Discussion, Summary Paper
<b>6</b>	Ch. 9 & 10 Study Plans, Power Points, & Quizzes <b>Exam 3</b>
<b>7</b>	Ch. 11 & 12 Study Plans, Power Points, & Quizzes Reflection Paper Discussion
<b>8</b>	Reflection Paper, Ch. 13 Study Plan, Power Point, & Quiz <b>Final Exam (Ch. 11-13)</b>

All assignments are due by 11:59pm.

If an assignment is not completed online, it should be turned into me directly via email at: [jsutton@ntcc.edu](mailto:jsutton@ntcc.edu).