

PSYC 1101 D Syllabus

General Psychology

Summer 2026

MW 12:30-2:40pm

Instructor Information

Instructor: Lauren Moran

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General Course Information

Description

A broad survey of the major topics in psychology including, but not limited to, research methodology, biological and social factors influencing behavior, development, learning, memory, personality, and abnormal.

Course Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, you should be able to:

- Describe the basic processes underlying a variety of psychological phenomena, including development, emotion, motivation, learning, memory, and consciousness
- Demonstrate familiarity with major psychological concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends
- Discuss the ways that environmental and biological processes contribute to psychological phenomena
- Apply psychological concepts to general descriptions of human behavior as well as your own experiences and attitudes

Required Course Materials

Open-source textbook:

Psychology from OpenStax, Print ISBN 1938168356, Digital ISBN 1947172077,

www.openstax.org/details/psychology

Grading Policy:

Assignment	Points Possible
Unit Exams (2)	200
Final Exam	200
Weekly Reflections (5)	50
In-Class Assignments (5)	50
Application Assignments (4)	100
TOTAL:	600

Description of Graded Components

EXAMS:

Unit Exams (100 pts. x 2 exams = 200 pts.): There will be two unit exams, each covering approximately one-half of the course material. Exams will be 40 multiple-choice questions and 10 fill-in-the-blank questions. Each question will be worth 2 points. The questions will require not only recognition of concepts and correct answers, but comprehension and application of course material.

This semester, all exams will be completed in-class through Canvas using Respondus LockDown Browser. You will need to bring a laptop or other device compatible with LockDown browser in order to complete the exam.

Final Exam (200 pts.): The final exam will take place during the institute scheduled exam period for the course. The final exam is comprehensive and will contain 80 multiple-choice questions and 20 fill-in-the-blank questions (worth 2 points each).

ASSIGNMENTS:

Weekly Reflections (10 pts. x 5 reflections = 50 pts.): Some weeks, students must reflect on the material covered in class. Reflection assignments will be completed through Canvas and typically ask students to submit a brief (about 1 paragraph) essay addressing the reflection prompt for the week. Prompts may vary slightly, but each is designed to encourage reflection and application of course materials. More than 5 reflections will be given throughout the semester, but only 5 reflections will be counted in student's grades (i.e., low grades will be dropped).

In-Class Assignments/Participation (10 pts. x 5 assignments = 50 pts.): During some class periods, students will be asked to complete brief assignments related to the day's lecture material. These assignments will primarily be graded for completion and effort. More than 5 in-class assignments may be given throughout the semester, but only 5 assignments will be counted in students' grades (i.e., low grades will be dropped).

Application Assignments (25 pts. x 4 assignments = 100 pts.): Application assignments also ask students to reflect on and apply course concepts, but are lengthier and more in-depth than weekly reflections. The format of these assignments will vary from unit to unit, and details for each assignment will be posted on Canvas.

Research Experience Requirement

We in the School of Psychology believe that exposure to research is essential to gaining a better understanding of the scientific study of human behavior. Being involved in research is a good way to experience first-hand and learn about the scientific enterprise. There are three ways to experience research activity to fulfill the research exposure requirement for PSYC 1101:

1. Experience research as a volunteer participant in studies conducted in the School of Psychology at GT. You can learn about, and sign-up for, the experiments on the experiment web site: gatech-psych.sona-systems.com
2. Complete a series of alternative assignments (see below)
3. Or some combination of both.

Amount of Research Participation Required

You need to participate in 4 hours of research credit, and at least half of your research credits must be completed in-person (in other words, you can only complete a maximum of 50% of the requirement through online studies. Studies will be labeled in SONA as Online studies or Standard (lab) studies. For every 1 credit you earn in an online study, you must earn at least 1 credit in a standard study. You may complete as many credits through standard studies as you would like (i.e., you can complete the entire 4 credit requirement with standard, in-person studies).

Deadline for Research Participation

At least half of your credit must be completed by the midpoint of the semester and you have until the last day of class (prior to the reading and exam periods) to complete the rest of your research credit.

Penalty for Incomplete Research Credits

Unsuccessful completion of all research credits can result in up to a letter grade reduction toward the final grade in the course. You will not technically earn points for participating in

research hours. By doing 4 hours of research, you get to keep the points you have earned throughout the semester. The breakdown for partial completion is as follows:

- Only 3 hrs completed: -2.5% from total course grade
- Only 2 hrs completed: -5% from total course grade
- Only 1 hr completed: -7.5% from total course grade
- 0 hrs completed: -10% from total course grade

Penalty for No-Showing to Studies

When students sign up for studies, it is important that they show up at the appointed time or cancel their appointments 24 hours in advance. Missed appointments are problematic because of the time and opportunities lost such as depriving other students from taking that spot and the lost time of the researchers. If there are three unexcused missed appointments during the semester, the student will no longer be able to sign up for studies. In this case, the remaining requirement must be fulfilled using Option 2. Arriving late to an appointment may constitute a missed appointment if the researcher is not able to accommodate the student in the remaining time.

Alternative Research Options for Minors and Objectors

This information is for people who are not yet 18 years of age and for people that have a conscientious objection to participating in experiments or research studies.

Periodically throughout the semester, the School of Psychology will host Research Review sessions. Students may attend these sessions to earn up to two (2) research credits toward their PSYC 1101 requirement (per session attended). Students who wish to complete all of their research participation requirement through Research Review sessions will need to attend at least two sessions to fulfill their requirement.

During Research Review sessions, students will be provided with a research article and asked to summarize the major theoretical foundations, hypotheses, methodology, and findings of the study. **Research summaries will be completed on paper (i.e., you may not use laptops, tablets, etc. during Research Review sessions).** If you have accommodations on file with Disability Services indicating you are unable to complete this assignment, please contact your instructor for alternative options.

For dates, times, and locations of the Research Review sessions, please check Canvas for an announcement from your instructor during the first few weeks of the semester.

Course Policies

Attendance and/or Participation

Attendance in this class is mandatory. There is no grade for attendance, but you are expected to show up to all planned class periods, and completion of in-class participation assignments is contingent on your attendance on the day they are given.

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review [Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Core IMPACTS

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following [Career-Ready Competencies](#):

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Use of Generative AI

In this class we treat AI-based assistance, such as ChatGPT, the same way we treat collaboration with other people: you are welcome to talk about your ideas and work with other people, both inside and outside the class, as well as with AI-based assistants.

However, all work you submit must be your own. You should *never* include anything that was not written directly by you in an assignment without proper citation (including quotation marks and in-line citation for direct quotes).

Including anything you did not write in your assignment without proper citation will be treated as an academic misconduct case. If you are unsure where the line is between collaborating with AI and copying AI, we recommend the following heuristics:

Heuristic 1: Never hit “Copy” within your conversation with an AI assistant. You can copy your own work into your own conversation, but do not copy anything from the conversation back into your assignment. Instead, use your interaction with the AI assistant as a learning experience, then let your assignment reflect your improved understanding.

Heuristic 2: Do not have your assignment and the AI agent open at the same time. Similar to the above, use your conversation with the AI as a learning experience, then close the interaction down, open your assignment, and let your assignment reflect your revised knowledge. This heuristic includes avoiding using AI directly integrated into your composition environment: just as you should not let a classmate write content directly into your submission, so also you should avoid using tools that directly add content to your submission.

Deviating from these heuristics does not automatically qualify as academic misconduct; however, following these heuristics essentially guarantees your collaboration will not cross the line into misconduct.

Extensions, Late Assignments

Application assignments may be turned in up to 48 hours late with a 20% late penalty per day.

Weekly reflections and in-class assignments cannot be turned in late. No make-ups will be offered for these assignments.

Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

There will be no make-up exams except as permitted by institute policy for university-excused absences, religious holidays and major illnesses. Students should contact the professor **prior** to the scheduled exam if possible, or **within 24 hours** of missing the exam due to accident or illness, to schedule a makeup exam.

Exams must be made up within one week of the student being cleared to return to campus.

Syllabus Change Policy

This syllabus should be viewed as a guide. While every attempt is made to provide an accurate overview of the course, circumstances and events may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes to the syllabus are at the discretion of the instructor and will be made with clear notice.

Campus Resources for Students

Undergraduate Student Academic Success Resources:

A list of resources for undergraduate students' academic success and information about advising can be found at [Success at Tech](#).

- Academic Support: Academic Success and Advising (a unit in the Office of Undergraduate Education & Student Success) provides free support for your courses. Students can attend scheduled supplemental review (PLUS) sessions, stop by Drop-In Tutoring, or schedule a one-on-one appointment through Knack. To explore what options work best for you, please visit us online at success.gatech.edu/tutoring, email us at tutoring@gatech.edu, or come see us at Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, Suite 283.

Student Well-Being:

At Georgia Tech, we are concerned about your overall physical, social, and mental well-being. A [comprehensive list](#) of wellness related resources has been compiled and maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Well-being ([student-resource-guide \(gatech.edu\)](#))