



Syllabus

General Psychology
PSYC 1103, section X30
Summer I 2024 (June 3rd-July 5th)

Contact Information

Professor: Michael A. Vandehey, Ph.D. Office: O'donohoe 112
Office Hours: By appointment only Summer I Phone: 397-4026
Class Email: Michael.Vandehey@d2lmail.msutexas.edu
Office Email: michael.vandehey@msutexas.edu

Note: When emailing me, please put General Psychology Online as the subject.

Goals

To increase multiple-choice test-taking skills and improve study skills/time management. This will be accomplished by:

1. Instruction on studying and test-taking skills.
2. Having to decipher ambiguously written questions.
3. Having to choose between the "best" and "almost best" answer.

Be introduced to the exciting field of psychology.

1. Modules survey many of the major areas of study within the field.

Text

I am excited to announce that we will be using online modules that are provided free by the Noba project. You will need to go to [nobaproject](https://nobaproject.com) and set up an account. Our textbook is at: [nobaproject textbook](https://nobaproject.com/textbooks/michael-vandehey-new-textbook)
Or <https://nobaproject.com/textbooks/michael-vandehey-new-textbook>

Course Requirements

This course is asynchronous allowing students flexibility to work around other courses, clinical placements, and work. Students are responsible for reading the assigned chapters and watching Loom videos posted by the instructor. Please read below regarding the graded tasks for the course.

Loom lectures are for enrolled students only. Permission to post any audio/visual recording of the instructor on social media (e.g., tiktok, YouTube) IS NOT granted and a violation of the instructor's privacy. Any student caught posting a video(s) of the instructor will be dropped from the course and receive a grade of "F." In addition, the behavior will be reported to the proper university authorities for discipline.

Grades will be based on your performance on **5 exams, 1 quiz, and the introduce yourself posting.**

Each **multiple choice exam** will be worth 50 points and cover the combination of modules and additional information posted by me for each section. Exams will be time-limited reducing the likelihood of being able to use notes or the text.

Quiz (10 points) will cover additional information posted by me. Topic: (a) studying and test-taking skills.

Participation post. Each student will receive 5 points for posting a personal introduction.

Posting questions or answers (zero points) for the modules. Each section will have a discussion for posting questions about the material. I will try to answer questions within 36 hours. Please do not post questions the evening before a test closes and expect a response. Classmates may post answers or clarifications also 😊

Tests and the quiz will be multiple choice and completed within D2L and the grade ranges are as follows:

A = 238-265

B = 212-237

C = 185-211

D = 159-184

F = 158 or lower

Note Students living with disability must be registered with [Disability Support Services](#) before accommodations can be provided. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact me and must provide documentation by Disability Support Services. The Director of Disability Support Services serves as the ADA Coordinator and may be contacted at (940) 397-4140, TDD (940) 397-4515, or 3410 Taft Blvd., Clark Student Center 168.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Midwestern State University does not discriminate on the basis of an individual's disability and complies with Section 504 and Public Law 101-336 (Americans with Disabilities Act) in its admissions, accessibility, treatment and employment of individuals in its programs and activities.

It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor of any disabling condition that will require modifications. Students who require special accommodations must register with Disability Support Services before these accommodations can be provided. An Accommodation Request Form can be obtained at [Disability Support Services](#).

Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. **Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. **Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations; however, they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into **D2L** through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

- a. Brightspace (maker of D2L) has tutorials available on YouTube. Please go to [Brightspace YouTube](#) for additional help.

Your next exam requires the LockDown Browser and a Webcam.

Most of the time you will not encounter any problems, however, listed below are some common issues.

1. Make sure you have the most recent version of the LockDown Browser on your computer. You can install the latest version here: <https://msutexas.edu/distance/lockdown-browser.php>
2. The most common issue is the loss of connection during the test. If you get a blank page or a spinning wheel, you will need to exit the test, close the browser, and re-enter the test.
3. If you are taking this test at home, it is best that no other device is being used that requires the Internet while you are taking the test.
4. **Chromebook Laptops are NOT compatible with the LockDown Browser**, so you will need to locate a different device. If you have the ability to come to campus the LockDown Browser is on the computers in the Clark Student Center lab and the first floor Dillard lab. **Note:** There are no cameras on these computers, if your test requires the Monitor you will need to bring your own webcam or check one out from the Library.

If you need assistance with issues, please use the Report a Problem link at the top of this page or email d2lhelp@msutexas.edu.

Always let your Instructor know that you've had a technical difficulty and have reached out to us.

Please be aware of:

1. The LockDown Browser flags problematic behavior like going off camera, talking, or even being back lit. The instructor gets an alert. All moderate and high alert notifications result in the video being watched for evidence of academic dishonesty. Please don't sit with a lamp or bright light behind you as the camera has a hard time reading your face.
2. Please do not take an exam with anyone else present. If you are in an MSU computer lab, we understand that other people may be around. Please don't have conversations with them until after you complete the exam.
3. The **environment scans are not acceptable in many cases.** Students are to show the room including the desk/table top and the wall behind the computer. Students who fail to properly scan the environment are watched very closely. Any behavior that appears like a person is looking at notes or another device may be reported as academic dishonesty.

Finally, a "dummy" test has been added to the class. This will allow students a way to test if their device and/or software are compatible with the LockDown Browser.

Informed Consent: This information is to inform the student of the limits of confidentiality while enrolled at MSU Texas or any other state school. Due to federal and state law, faculty and staff working for an university are required to report any information that falls under Title IX. Any student who indicates experiencing sexual abuse/misconduct, physical/emotional abuse, domestic violence, stalking, suicidal/homicidal ideation, or related experiences will have an incident report sent to either the MSU Texas Title IX and/or the Dean of Student's office. Student disclosure may occur via a face-to-face meeting, in-class self-disclosure, email, statement made in a written assignment, etc. If a student asks a faculty or staff person not to share the information, please note that by law, we have to report and I will report. Please note that as students, you may be aware of classmates/dormmates struggling and can make an incident report at: [Student Referrals and Incident Reporting Forms](https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?MSUTexas) or <https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?MSUTexas>

Report forms are:

Bias Incident Reporting Form
 Campus Incident Report Form
 Concerning Student Behavior Form
 General Student Complaint Form
 Sexual Misconduct Report Form
 Student Alert Form

College Policies and Procedures

Can be found at the bottom of the MSU home page or at [Human Resources Policy](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. Any evidence of cheating will result in a grade of "F" and being reported to the [Dean of Students](#).

Wikipedia

At no time will a student be allowed to use Wikipedia as a source for any project or paper in this class. If it is determined that Wikipedia was used as a source for a project or paper, the student will be given a grade of zero automatically.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Written assignments will be run through a plagiarism and AI checker called Turn It In. If at any point Turn It In identifies that a student used AI to complete an assignment (such as ChatGPT), an automatic grade of zero will be given to the assignment.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by MSU TEXAS Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the FBI video entitled "Run. Hide. Fight." which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

Student Code of Conduct

MWSU's official policy in the University's Code of Student Conduct on page 52, states:

Instructor Drop An instructor may drop a student any time during the semester for excessive absences, for consistently failing to meet class assignments, for an indifferent attitude, or for disruptive conduct. The

instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to dropping the student from the class. An instructor's drop of a student takes precedence over the student-initiated course drop of a later date. The instructor will assign a grade of either WF or F through the first 9 weeks of a long semester, the first 6 weeks of a 10-week summer term, or the 12th class day of a 4- or 5-week summer term consisting of 20 days. After these periods the grade will be an F. The date the instructor drop form is received in the Office of the Registrar as the official drop date. A student dropped from a class by a faculty member for disruptive behavior has the right of appeal to the Student Conduct Committee through the Student Conduct office.

Midwestern State University Student Honor Creed

"As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so."

As students at MSU, we recognize that any great society must be composed of empowered, responsible citizens. We also recognize universities play an important role in helping mold these responsible citizens. We believe students themselves play an important part in developing responsible citizenship by maintaining a community where integrity and honorable character are the norm, not the exception. Thus, We, the Students of Midwestern State University, resolve to uphold the honor of the University by affirming our commitment to complete academic honesty. We resolve not only to be honest but also to hold our peers accountable for complete honesty in all university matters.

We consider it dishonest to ask for, give, or receive help in examinations or quizzes, to use any unauthorized material in examinations, or to present, as one's own, work or ideas which are not entirely one's own. We recognize that any instructor has the right to expect that all student work is honest, original work. We accept and acknowledge that responsibility for lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty fundamentally rests within each individual student.

We expect of ourselves academic integrity, personal professionalism, and ethical character. We appreciate steps taken by University officials to protect the honor of the University against any who would disgrace the MSU student body by violating the spirit of this creed.

Written and adopted by the 2002-2003 MSU Student Senate.

Travel Plans

Please do not make travel plans that will interfere with your participation and successful completion of this course.

Tentative Reading and Exam Schedule

Notice: Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Weeks	Reading Assignment
June 3rd	Topic: Study and test taking skills- quiz Module: Why Science Module: Research Designs Module: States of Consciousness Test 1 is already open.
Study Skills Quiz and Introduction	Opens Monday June 3rd at 12:00 a.m. Central Time (USA), Closes Sunday, June 9th by 11:30 p.m. Central Time (USA)
Test 1: Central	Closes Monday, June 10th by 11:30 p.m. Time (USA)
June 3rd	Module: Gender Module: Psychodynamic Perspective Module: Personality Traits <i>Extra reading of interest (not on test): Gender Schema on Infants Article (PDF)</i>
Test 2:	Opens June 7th, Closes Monday, June 17th by 11:30 p.m. Central Time (USA)
June 10th	Module: Attachment through the Life Course Module: Adolescent Module: Emerging Adulthood Module: Aging
<i>Last day for a "W"</i>	<i>June 26th</i>
Test 3:	Opens June 14th, Closes Monday, June 24th by 11:30 p.m. Central Time (USA)

June 17th Module: Conditioning and Learning
Module: The Healthy Life
Module: Happiness: The Science of Subjective Well-Being

Test 4: **Opens June 21st, Closes Monday, July 1st by 11:30 p.m. Central Time (USA)**

June 24th Module: Mood Disorders
Module: Anxiety and Related Disorders
Module: Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders
Module: Therapeutic Orientations

Test 5 **Opens June 28th, Closes Friday, July 5th by 11:30 p.m. Central Time (USA). No Exceptions!**