

Syllabus
Clinical Psychology
Fall 2025

Professor:	David Carlston, Ph.D.	Course #:	PSYC 4103, sec. X10
Office:	N/a	Time:	Asynchronous Online
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Bernstein, D. A., Teachman, B. A., Olatunji, B. O., & Lilienfeld, S. O. (2020). Introduction to Clinical Psychology: Bridging Science and Practice (9th ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Course Objectives:

1. Acquire an understanding of historical and current perspectives on mental health and mental health treatment germane to clinical psychology.
2. Apply theories, perspectives, and ethical considerations to clinical research and practice.
3. Articulate an academic and professional pathway to clinical service provision.

Course Requirements:

1. Examinations: Students will complete six exams during the course of the semester. Exams will multiple-choice and short answer questions. Material on the exam will include information from the textbook and additional readings for the section, should they be provided. Each exam will be worth 100 points.

Exam will be taken through D2L. Exams will be timed with a hard cutoff time. There will be insufficient time to look up each answer in the textbook and respond to the written question(s). Therefore, it is important that you have mastered the material thoroughly prior to logging into the exam. Exams will be open book and open note. (Use of Internet resources including AI on the exam will be grounds for dismissal from the course with a failing grade.)

For each exam, students will be provided the option of turning in a copy of the notes that they created for the exam. Those who complete thorough, handwritten notes will be awarded extra credit points towards their final exam score. Only notes that are handwritten in blue ink will be accepted for the assignment. Moreover, your name should be visible in the upper right corner of the first page of notes.

You make take these notes using any format that you find to be helpful, however, I would suggest using either the SQ3R method or the Cornell method of note taking.

2. Reading Quizzes. In order to help you prepare for your exams, students will complete two weekly reading quizzes. Quizzes will be taken through D2L. Quizzes will be timed with a hard cutoff time. Quizzes will be comprised of multiple-choice questions only. There will be insufficient time to look up each answer in the textbook. Therefore, it is important that you have mastered the material thoroughly prior to logging into the exam. Exams will be open book and open note. (Use of Internet resources including AI on the exam will be grounds for dismissal from the course with a failing grade.) Quizzes will be worth 10 points each.
3. Personal Application of Course Material: Students will complete a personal application project during the semester. To this end, students will complete a personal profile project applying the information contained in the course. Students will be provided more details regarding this assignment throughout the semester.

Grades: Grades will be based on a 1000-point scale.

- A 900-1000
- B 800-899
- C 700-799
- D 600-699
- F 0-599

Attendance:

Although this is an online course, active participation is required. Students must login regularly to complete quizzes and exams. *Students will be removed from the course with a letter grade of F should they miss four consecutive assessments or if they miss two exams.*

Cheating Policy:

Although cheating does occur on campus, any evidence of cheating (e.g., looking on another's paper, allowing someone to look on your own paper, using an unauthorized memory aide) will result in automatic dismissal from the course with a letter grade of "F" and a referral to the Dean of Students, as cheating is a violation of the university honor code.

Disability Services:

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from the University's Disability Support Services (DSS) during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation to a student until appropriate verification from the DSS has been provided.

Mandated Reporting:

This information is to inform the student of the limits of confidentiality while enrolled at MSU Texas or any other Texas state school. Due to federal and state law, MSU Texas faculty and staff are required to report key information regarding student welfare. For example, I am required to complete a report for any student who indicates experiencing sexual abuse/misconduct, physical/emotional abuse, domestic violence, stalking, suicidal/homicidal ideation, or related experience. These reports will be sent to the MUS Texas Title IX Department and/or the Dean of Student's office (<https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?MSUTexas>).

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: (<https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?MSUTexas>).

Missed Exams/assignments:

Missed exams may not be taken at a later date. Should a student have a mandatory, university sponsored event that prohibits them from completing an exam, they should notify the professor in advance and will take the exam early.

No late work will be accepted.

Syllabus Change Policy:

This syllabus is a guide for the course—not a “contract”—and is subject to change. Syllabus changes are communicated via D2L and/or in class. I’ll provide a minimum of 48 hours’ notice before the relevant change takes place if at all possible.

Class Schedule:

	Class Week	Readings	Important Dates
1	8/25	What Is Clinical Psychology	8/25 – Syllabus Review 8/27 – RQ pgs. 1-29
2	9/1	Clinical Psychology's Past, Present Future	9/1 – RQ pgs. 30-45 9/3 – RQ pgs. 45-62 9/4-9/5 – Exam #1
3	9/8	Basic Features of Clinical Assessment, Classification, and Diagnosis	9/8 – RQ pgs. 63-82 9/10 – RQ pgs. 82-100
4	9/15	Interviewing and Observation in Clinical Psychology	9/15 – RQ pgs. 102-124 9/17 – RQ pgs. 124-141
5	9/22	Testing in Clinical Psychology	9/22 – RQ pgs. 143-167 9/24 – RQ pgs. 167-184 9/25-9/26 – Exam #2
6	9/29	Basic Features of Clinical Interventions	9/29 – RQ pgs. 185-205 10/1 – RQ pgs. 205-214
7	10/6	Research on Clinical Interventions	10/6 – RQ pgs. 216-238 10/8 – RQ pgs. 238-246 10/9-10/10 – Exam #3
8	10/13	Psychoanalytic, Psychodynamic, and Humanistic Psychotherapies	10/13 – RQ pgs. 248-269 10/15 – RQ pgs. 269-284
9	10/20	Cognitive, Behavioral, and Acceptance-Based Psychotherapies	10/20 – RQ pgs. 286-302 10/22 – RQ pgs. 302-323 10/23-10/24 – Exam #4
10	10/27	Delivering Mental Health Services	10/27 – RQ pgs. 324-338 10/29 – RQ pgs. 338-349
11	11/3	Clinical Psychology for Youth and Older Adults	11/3 – RQ pgs. 350-374 11/5 – RQ pgs. 374-392 11/6-11/7 – Exam #5
12	11/10	Clinical Psychology, Health, and Well-Being	11/10 – RQ pgs. 394-406 11/12 – RQ pgs. 406-417
13	11/17	Forensic Psychology	11/17 – RQ pgs. 448-465 11/19 – RQ pgs. 465-476 11/20-11/21 – Exam #6
14	11/24	Training and Practice Issues in Clinical Psychology	11/24 – RQ pgs. 477-497 11/26 – RQ pgs. 497-516
15	12/1	Getting into Graduate School in Clinical Psychology	12/1 – RQ pgs. 517-534 12/3 – RQ pgs. 534-549
16	12/8		12/9 – Final Project Due