



RANGER COLLEGE  
RANGER, TEXAS

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COURSE SYLLABUS

**GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY**

**PSYC 2301**

**3 credit hours**

**INSTRUCTOR:**

**John Slaughter**

## PSYC 2301

**Instructor:** John Slaughter

**Office Hours:** Available by appt. M-F  
jslaughter@rangercollege.edu

**Office Location:** Academic Building

**Office Phone:** 254-647-3234 ex. 7024 **Email:**

### I. TEXAS CORE CURRICULUM STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

### II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

### III. REQUIRED BACKGROUND / PREREQUISITES

Passing score on TSI reading section or equivalent alternate test.

### IV. TEXTBOOK; READINGS; MATERIALS

Introduction to Psychology by Lumen Learning, Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License  
Supplementary Instructional Aids:

1. DVD or online videos
2. Clippings, pictures, articles, etc. on various related topics

### V. COURSE PURPOSE

This course will focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. It will involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

### VI. 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.

### VII. CORE OBJECTIVES

This course directly meets the following of the six Core Objectives:

- ✓ **Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
  - ✓ **Communication Skills (COM)** - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
  - ✓ **Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)** - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Teamwork (TW)**- to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

- ✓ **Social Responsibility (SR)** - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- Personal Responsibility (PR)** - to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

## VIII. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Lecture, discussion, demonstrations, group discussion, and written/oral reports on related topics selected by students / the instructor.

## IX. METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

There will be four major tests. All daily quizzes / graded work will be averaged at the end of the semester to count as a major test grade. A written project will also be required. Each major test, the written project, the Final Exam and the semester average of the daily quizzes / graded class work will count equally toward the final course grade.

TESTS	Grading Scale
Four major tests: (CT, COM, EQS, SR)	90% or higher = A
1. Sections TBD	80%-89% = B
2. Sections TBD	70%-79% = C
3. Sections TBD	60%-69% = D
4. Sections TBD	Below 60% = F

Daily quizzes and graded class work may be given without notice. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)

Final Exam – Covering Sections TBD (CT, COM, EQS, SR)

**The percentage of each test is subject to change based on whether the course remains completely FTF. Changes may need to be made and Test 2 may change to a midterm worth up to 25% of your final grade.**

**Outside Assignment** (Current event project) (CT, COM, EQS, SR)

The outside assignment will be a written project requiring the location of **1** current event article (dated no earlier than the first day of the current semester) and writing at least a two page application response paper (typewritten, double spaced) for the article. The paper **must** indicate a relationship to information covered in the textbook or class discussions. A cover sheet and copies of the entire article (including the date) **must** be included. This project is due **during the 12<sup>th</sup> week of the semester (the exact day for each course section will be provided in class and on Blackboard via announcements). Twenty points** will be deducted from the grade if it is not turned in by **5:00 p.m. on that day!!!**

Papers that are **turned after 5:00 p.m. on Thursday of the 12<sup>th</sup> week of the semester WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!!! NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

## X. COURSE/CLASSROOM POLICIES

The absence policy as stated in the college catalog will be followed.

While class participation is encouraged, class disturbance will not be tolerated. Any student who disturbs the class will be asked to leave the room. Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be pursued as a disciplinary action.

**Electronic Devices:** A student may not use an electronic device during a test or quiz or during any class unless given permission. Any electronic device must be kept out of sight and not accessed during tests or quizzes. A student who chooses to use an electronic device during a test or quiz will not be permitted to continue the test or quiz and will be asked to leave the room and will be denied the opportunity to complete or re-take the test or quiz. Due to the circumstance, the instructor may question the validity of any portion of the test or quiz completed prior to the violation and may elect not to grade the test or quiz. In such a situation, the student will not receive credit for the test or quiz and will not be permitted to make up the missed test or quiz.

**The Golemon Library and Learning Resources Center** of Ranger College provides sufficient resources to complete the current events projects including: books, magazines, newspapers and Internet access.

**Finally, Please Be on Time to Class** – it is very distracting when students arrive late and it will be difficult for you to follow the lecture if you miss the opening minutes.

#### **XI. COURSE OUTLINE / SCHEDULE**

The following schedule for this course is subject to change.

Week 1 Read Sections TBA (TBA will be announced in Blackboard)

Week 2 Read TBA and Review for Test 1

Week 3 **TEST I** / Read TBA

Week 4 Continue Sections TBA

Week 5 Continue Sections TBA

Week 6 (Begin looking for articles) Read Sections TBA Review for Test II

Week 7 **TEST II** Read Sections TBA

#### **Spring Break March 12-16th**

Week 8 Read sections TBA/ (work on writing Assignment –Article / topic due)

Week 9 Read assigned sections TBA / Review Test III

Week 10 **TEST III** / Start assigned sections TBA

Week 11 Assigned reading sections TBA

Week 12 Assigned reading sections TBA Review Test IV **Writing Assignment Due this week!!**

Week 13 **TEST IV** / Review for Final Exams

Week 14 Final Exams

#### **XII. NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

Admission, employment, and program policies of Ranger College are nondiscriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, disability and national origin.

#### **XIII. ADA STATEMENT**

Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and / or physical disabilities. The student is responsible for making the initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor, Gabe Lewis (glewis@rangercollege.edu). It is advisable to make this contact **before or immediately** after the semester begins.

I have received and understand the information in the syllabus for Psychology 2301, and I agree to abide by the stated policies.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Legibly print** the following information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Hometown: \_\_\_\_\_  
(City / State / Country)

College Activity / Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

Tie Breaker \_\_\_\_\_