

**Texas A&M University Central Texas**  
**PSYC 3305-110 80176 Human Cognitive Processes**  
**Fall 2020**

**COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION**

August 24 -December 11, 2020

*This is a 100% online course, and uses the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].*

**INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Stephanie Weigel, Ph.D.

**Office:** Warrior Hall 318 P

**Phone:** 254.307.0622

**Email:** [sweigel@tamuct.edu](mailto:sweigel@tamuct.edu)

**Office Hours:** Monday & Wednesday 10am-11am, 2:00pm-4:00pm; Tuesday 11:00am-1:00pm. Please schedule an appointment to arrange a phone call/video conference.

**Student-instructor interaction**

Learning is best supported by interaction. It is important that you feel comfortable asking questions and communicating during class discussions. This will help support your learning and that of your fellow students. Some questions are best saved for outside of the classroom. The best way to contact me for these discussions is via email. We can set up an appointment if needed during my scheduled office hours. I will check my campus email daily on weekdays and do my best to respond within 48 hours.

**WARRIOR SHIELD**

**Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas**

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login) [<https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login>] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

**COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES**

To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, Texas A&M University-Central Texas has adopted policies and practices to minimize virus transmission. All members of the university community are expected to adhere to these measures to ensure their own safety and the safety of others. Students must observe the

following practices while participating in face-to-face courses, course-related activities (office hours, help sessions, transitioning to and between classes, study spaces, academic services, etc.) and co-curricular programs:

- Self-monitoring—Students should follow CDC recommendations for self-monitoring. Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely and should not participate in face-to-face instruction. Students required to quarantine must participate in courses and course-related activities remotely and must not attend face-to-face course activities. Students should notify their instructors of the quarantine requirement. Students under quarantine are expected to participate in courses and complete graded work unless they have symptoms that are too severe to participate in course activities.
- Face Coverings— Face coverings must be worn inside of buildings and within 50 feet of building entrances on the A&M-Central Texas Campus. This includes lobbies, restrooms, hallways, elevators, classrooms, laboratories, conference rooms, break rooms, non-private office spaces, and other shared spaces. Face coverings are also required in outdoor spaces where physical distancing is not maintained. The university will evaluate exceptions to this requirement on a case by case basis. Students can request an exception through the Office of Access and Inclusion in Student Affairs.
  - o If a student refuses to wear a face covering, the instructor should ask the student to leave and join the class remotely. If the student does not leave the class, the faculty member should report that student to the Office of Student Conduct. Additionally, the faculty member may choose to teach that day's class remotely for all students.
- Physical Distancing—Physical distancing must be maintained between students, instructors, and others in the course and course-related activities.
- Classroom Ingress/Egress—Students must follow marked pathways for entering and exiting classrooms and other teaching spaces. Leave classrooms promptly after course activities have concluded. Do not congregate in hallways and maintain 6-foot physical distancing when waiting to enter classrooms and other instructional spaces.
- The university will notify students in the event that the COVID-19 situation necessitates changes to the course schedule or modality.

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

### **Course Overview and description:**

Study human cognition and information processing including perception, attention, memory, reasoning, and problem solving. Explore experimental methods and current theories of human cognition. Prerequisite: PSYC 2301 or approval of Department Chair

### **Course Objective or Goal**

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

**SLO 1: Demonstrate comprehension of key theories, models, and history of cognitive psychology in the areas of perception, attention, memory, reasoning, and problem solving. Students will demonstrate their comprehension of theories, concepts and history through Discussions, Demonstrations, and Exams.**

**SLO 2: Access and discuss current research findings in the area of cognitive psychology. Students will access current research and provide a critical analysis of the research in discussions with peers and in writing through Article Share activities.**

**SLO 3: Describe and analyze experimental research methods used for studying human cognition. Students will prepare and present examples of historical research methods to their peers through Article Shares, Demonstrations and Discussions.**

**SLO 4: Integrate and apply human cognition concepts into daily interactions and environment. Students will identify ways of applying course concepts to daily life with Article Share activities, Discussions, and Demonstrations.**

### **Required Reading and Textbook(s)**

Goldstein, E.B. (2019). Cognitive psychology: Connecting mind research, and everyday experience. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning. (ISBN: 978-1-337-40827-1)

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Weekly Group Discussions:** (16 weeks X 20 points per week) 320 pts total (SLO 1,2,4). Each week the instructor will provide a prompt or discussion topic based upon the week's readings. Students will provide their response to the discussion prompt in the Canvas Discussions area. The student's original response is worth up to 10 points. In addition to the response, students are expected to respond to at least 2 peers as well (up to 10 points). In order to receive full credit, the original post and peer response must show knowledge of the readings as well as application to the student's life, career, experiences or perspective. In other words, the response must go beyond summarizing the textbook. See rubric in Canvas Discussion area.

**Demonstrations:** (4 Demonstrations X 30 points each) 120 points total (SLO 1, SLO 3, SLO 4)-For this assignment students will participate in example of a concept discussed in the course textbook (Perception, Memory, Creativity, Problem-solving). The demonstration will illustrate the phenomena and/or research method used to study the topic. The student will participate in (3 points) a demonstration, then provide a written report: summary of the example they participated in (0-10 points), describe the concept that it demonstrates (0-5 points), then describe an example of their own from a real-life situation (0-10 points). The assignment will also be graded on clarity, organization, and APA writing style (0-2 points). A detailed rubric is provided in Canvas.

**Article Share:** (4 Articles X 30 points each) 120 points total (SLO 2, SLO 4)-Students will select a professional empirical article related to assigned topics (Attention, Language, Decision-making, Memory Problems). The student will provide a written summary of the article to share with

peers and respond to at least 2 peers' posts.

- For the written summary portion of the assignment students will provide a written summary of the article (0-10 pts), identify how the article relates to concepts discussed in the course (0-5pts), and provide examples of how the information relates to their life, improving their life, or increasing their understanding of other's behaviors with real life examples (0-5pts). The written summary portion must be submitted online via Canvas. (20 pts possible per assignment)
- For the second portion of the assignment students will respond to posts made by at least 2 peers (10 pts possible).

**Exams:** (3 Exams X 50 points each) 150 points total (SLO 1)- Three exams will assess students' comprehension of key concepts in the course. Exams will consist primarily of multiple choice items and will be completed online. Students may use notes and their textbook for the exams, but they must be completed individually without consultation with other students or non-class materials such as "Google".

**\*\*Late Work Policy\*\***

In order to make the most of the learning opportunities in the course it is very important for you to stay current with the readings and assignments. However, if you are unable to complete an assignment on time, please still complete and submit the assignment. Assignments will automatically receive a 10% point deduction if submitted after the due date. Assignments submitted later than 1 week after the original due date will not be accepted.

**Final Grading Criteria**

Weekly Discussions	320 points
Demonstrations	120 points
Article Share	120 points
Exams	150 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>710 POINTS POSSIBLE</b>

**Final grades will be based upon the percentage of total points earned:**

**A 90%-100% (639 points and above) B 80%-89% (568-638 points) C 70%-79% (497-567points) D 60%-69% (426-566 points) F 59% or less (425 points and below)**

**Posting of Grades**

All grades for the course will be posted in the Canvas Grade book. Grades for assignments and exams will be posted within 1 week of the due date or sooner. Feedback regarding the score will be provided as well, but I encourage you to ask questions about any grade or feedback for clarification.

## COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Week	Topics & Assigned Readings	Assignments & Activities
<b>Week 1</b> 8/24	Course Introduction What is Cognitive Psychology? Read Chapter 1	Discussion
<b>Week 2</b> 8/31	Cognitive Neuroscience-Read Chapter 2	Discussion
<b>Week 3</b> 9/7	Perception-Read Chapter 3	Discussion; <a href="#">Demonstration Report-Perception</a>
<b>Week 4</b> 9/14	Attention-Read Chapter 4	Discussion; <a href="#">Article Share-Attention</a>
<b>Week 5</b> 9/21	Prepare for exam-Review Chapters 1-4	Discussion; <b>Exam 1</b>
<b>Week 6</b> 9/28	Short-term Memory Storage- Read Chapter 5	Discussion; <a href="#">Demonstration Report-Memory</a>
<b>Week 7</b> 10/5	Differentiating types of memory-Read Chapter 6	Discussion
<b>Week 8</b> 10/12	Memory-encoding & retrieval-Read Chapter 7	Discussion
<b>Week 9</b> 10/19	Memory problems -Read Chapter 8	Discussion; <a href="#">Article Share-Memory Problems</a>
<b>Week 10</b> 10/26	Prepare for exam-Review Chapters 5-8	Discussion; <b>Exam 2</b>
<b>Week 11</b> 11/2	Language-Read Chapter 11	Discussion; <a href="#">Article Share-Language</a>
<b>Week 12</b> 11/9	Problem Solving-Read Chapter 12	Discussion: <a href="#">Demonstration Report-Problem Solving</a>
<b>Week 13</b> 11/16	Judgement and Decisions- Read Chapter 13	Discussion: <a href="#">Article Share-Decision-making</a>
<b>Week 14*</b> 11/23	Social Cognition* & Creativity	Discussion
<b>Week 15</b> 11/30	Intelligence*	Discussion; <a href="#">Demonstration-Creativity</a>
<b>Week 16</b> 12/7	<b>Wrap up-class ends 12/9</b>	<b>Discussion; Exam 3</b>

### Important University Dates

*Check this link for important university dates from the current Academic Calendar such as drop/withdrawal dates: <https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>*

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

### Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. **We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Students must have access to the internet and the ability to download and view attachments including Microsoft Word documents and PowerPoint slideshows and streaming video. Students will also need to access academic online resources available through the University Library services.

### Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

### Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: [helpdesk@tamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu)

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

*Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.*

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## UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

### Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2Fsubmit%2FForm%2Fstart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar’s Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar’s Office, you must go into Warrior Web

and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

### **Academic Integrity**

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, working with others in an unauthorized manner, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html),  
[https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0),  
[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\_id=0].

### **Academic Accommodations**

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required)  
[https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]

### **Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are

pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

### **Tutoring**

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors will return at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111 in the Fall 2020. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing [studentsuccess@tamuct.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@tamuct.edu).

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

### **University Writing Center**

The University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free service open to all TAMUCT students. For the Fall 2020 semester, all services will be online as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours online Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The UWC is also offering hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will

assist students in developing more effective composing practices. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

## University Library

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

**For Fall 2020, all reference service will be conducted virtually. Please go to our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index] to access our virtual reference help and our current hours.**

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## OTHER POLICY STATEMENTS

### A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX

Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html>].

### **Behavioral Intervention**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2) online [[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\\_id=2](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2)].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html) website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

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## **INSTRUCTOR POLICIES**

### **Late Work Policy**

In order to make the most of the learning opportunities in the course it is very important for you to stay current with the readings and assignments. However, if you are unable to complete an assignment on time, please still complete and submit the assignment. Assignments will automatically receive a 10% point deduction if submitted after the due date. Assignments submitted later than 1 week after the original due date will not be accepted.

### **Copyright Notice**

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

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