

Texas A&M University Central Texas
PSYC 3301-115 Psychology of Learning 60129
Spring 2021

COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION

January 19, 2021-May 14, 2021

Online course: 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

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 10am-11am, 2:00pm-4:00pm; Tuesday 11:00am-1:00pm. Please schedule an appointment to make arrangements for 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

Investigate major theoretical approaches, concepts and principles, and experimental methods of learning.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate factual knowledge of the major principles and theories of learning.

Students will read about, interpret, research, and discuss the concepts and implications of learning for each of the major schools of thought. Students will demonstrate this knowledge by recalling and defining key terms and concepts on the midterm and final exams and applying concepts in Observation Activities and Behavior Self-Management Plan.

2. Apply factual knowledge in order to critically analyze major principles and theories of learning. Students will demonstrate mastery of key terms and concepts by critiquing peer-reviewed journal articles, and by engaging in Online Psych Lab experiments and related Learning Lab reports.

3. Exhibit the ability to articulate oneself clearly in writing. Students will be able to express themselves effectively in writing and demonstrate competence in APA style. Students will apply these skills on all writing assignments including Learning Lab reports and Article Analyses.

4. Apply course material to develop and enhance critical thinking and problem solving skills. Students will connect concepts read about in the text, lecture, and videos to problems which may be encountered in the field of psychology and in their own everyday lives. This will be achieved through writing assignments including the Article Analyses, Observation Activities, Behavior Self-Management Plan, Self-Help tool critique and Learning Lab reports.

Required Reading and Textbook(s):

Powell, R.A., Honey, P. L., & Symbaluk, D. G. (2017). Introduction to Learning and Behavior. (5th ed), Cengage. ISBN: 9781305652941

Empirical articles linked in online classroom

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

WEEKLY GROUP DISCUSSIONS 8 weeks X 20 points per week=160 pts total, SLO 1,2,3,4,
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 text book. See rubric in Canvas Discussion area.

LEARNING LAB & REPORTS (3) 25 pts each (10/15)- 75 Pts (SLO 2, 3, 4):

Students will participate in three Online Psych Labs throughout the course of the semester. Each lab will provide students with hands-on experience with concepts directly related to course materials. The are 2 portions to these assignments:

1) Complete the assigned learning lab.

Login to <https://opl.apa.org/index.html?device=browser>

Choose "login as a student"

Create your account for the first time, then login with your credentials.

Click on the assigned experiment under the "Learning" Section

Choose the "Enter class ID" option. The ID for our class is "**766900**".

Completion of the lab experiment is due by Wednesday noon of the assigned week.

Participation in the experiment is worth 10 points.

2) Create a lab report based upon the results of the experience. Results for the class will be posted on Wednesday. A written report including the results is due by Sunday of the assigned week. The written report is worth up to 15 points. The written report should include:

a. How the experiment works-what did you do? What do you think was being tested and how does it relate to concepts from class (up to 5 points)

b. A summary of the results (up to 5 points) including a general description of the results and

How did your data compare to the overall class data?

Trends related to your data and the class data?

c. Your conclusions-what did you learn about learning? What did you learn about your own performance? (up to 5 points)

Learning Lab #1 choose: "Association Memory" experiment.

Learning Lab #2 choose: "Mazes"

Learning Lab #3 choose: "Mirror Drawing"

OBSERVATION REPORTS (3) 50 pts each: (SLO 1, 4)

Students will have an opportunity to apply course material and demonstrate knowledge of key concepts through observation activities with accompanying written reports. The topics of the reports include: Naturalistic Observation Methods, Habituation/Sensitization, Self-Control/Delay of Gratification. Specific guidelines and rubrics will be provided for each observation activity within Canvas.

ARTICLE ANALYSES (3) 25 pts each-75 pts (SLO 2, 3, 4)

The purpose of the Article Analysis is to expand students' awareness of current learning research and applications. Students will choose 1 of 3 articles for a particular topic provided in the online classroom and complete the Article Analysis Form using information from the article. Once completed the form will be posted in the discussion area of the online classroom (20 points) and students are asked to read and reply to posts made by at least 2 of their peers (5 points).

BEHAVIOR SELF-MANAGEMENT PLAN plan/final report 100 pts (SLO 1, 4)

Students will have an opportunity to apply learning principles to their own lives with by creating a personal Behavior Self-Management Plan and carrying out the plan. Students will identify a behavior that they would like to change in their life. This could be stopping a habit, learning a new skill, increasing study time, etc. Students will submit a plan that includes and applies learning principles related to the behavior they want to change. The plan must be reviewed and approved by the instructor. The student will then implement the plan and log observations related to progress. A final report will be submitted summarizing the plan, observations, and final outcome. Detailed instructions and rubric are posted in the online classroom.

SELF-HELP TOOL REVIEW 40 points (SLO 2, 4)

Students will select a self-help tool to aid them in their Behavior Self-Management Plan. The tool must be used for at least 1 week. Tools may include a book, a phone App, other structured program (exercise plan, weightloss program, etc.). After using the tool for at least 1 week a written summary and critique will be developed evaluating the effectiveness of the tool.

EXAMS (2) 100 pts each 200 pts (SLO 1)

Students will complete 2 exams. Each exam will have approximately 50 multiple choice questions related to the material from that section of the course. The exams will be completed online within the CANVAS course. Students may use their books and notes to complete the exam, but the exam must be completed individually by the student without the help of other students, tutors, etc.

Final Grading Criteria

Weekly Discussions	160 Pts
Learning Lab & Reports (3) 25 Pts Each (10/15)-	75 Pts
Observation Reports (3) 50 Pts Each-	150 Pts
Article Analyses (3) 25 Pts Each-	75 Pts
Self-Help Tool Critique	40 Pts
Behavior Self-Management Plan Plan/Final Report	100 Pts
<u>Exams (2) 100 Pts Each</u>	<u>200 Pts</u>
Total points possible	800 Pts

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

A 90%-100% (720 points and above) B 80%-89% (640-719 points) C 70%-79% (560-639points) D 60%-69% (480-559 points) F 59% or less (479 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.

Grading/Late Policy

In order to be successful in this course, it is critical for students to actively participate weekly and complete assignments on-time. If you are unable to complete an assignment by the due date contact your instructor immediately. Late assignments will receive an automatic 10% penalty and assignments more than 1 week late will not be accepted for credit.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Week	Topics & Assigned Readings	Assignments or Activities
Week 1 Jan 19-24	Introduction Read Ch 1 & 2 Research Methods	Discussion Week 1 Learning lab #1
Week 2 Jan 25-31	Ch 3 & 4 Classical Conditioning Plan & carry-out naturalistic Observation	Article Analysis #1, Discussion Week 2 Naturalistic Observation Due
Week 3 Feb 1-7	Ch 5 Practical Applications of Classical Conditioning	Habituation/Sensitization Observation, Discussion Week 3 Learning lab #2
Week 4 Feb 8-14	Ch 6 Operant conditioning	Exam 1 & Behavior Self-Management Plan; Discussion Week 4
Week 5 Feb 15-21	Ch 7 Schedules & of Reinforcement; Ch 8 Extinction	Begin Self-Management Plan; Discussion Week 5: Learning lab #3

Week 6 Feb 22-28	Ch 9 Escape & Avoidance Ch 10 Self-Control	Self-Control Observation Report Article #2 Discussion Week 6
Week 7 March 1-7	Ch 12 Biological Dispositions; Research Applications; Ch 11 Observational Learning	Behavior Self-Management Report due; Article #3; Discussion Week 7
Week 8 March 8-10	Exam Review	Exam 2; Discussion Week 8; Critique of Self Help Tool Due

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

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

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.

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>].

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].

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. 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 .

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 Spring 2021 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 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 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 Spring 2021, 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.

OPTIONAL 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].

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.

OTHER POLICIES

If you have concerns about copyright protection of your syllabus or course materials, consider adding the following notice

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.

Copyright. (2021) by Stephanie Weigel at Texas A&M University-Central Texas, College of Education; 1001 Leadership Place, Killeen, TX 76549; 254-(501-5879); sweigel@tamuct.edu