



Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring 2025

Year: 2024-2025

Course Prefix: PSY 2020

Course and Section #: X10 – X12

Course Title: Psychology as a Science and Profession

Credits: 3 credits

Course Description

In this course, we will look at basic research issues and critical analysis of psychological science. In addition, this course will serve as a foundation for navigating the psychology major at UVU and exploring post-graduate options. We will discuss the methods of psychological research, along with the myths and images of psychology as a field. We will also explore what can be done with a psychology degree--what kind of job you can get once you graduate.

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Demonstrate mastery of the basics of social science writing convention (scholarly tone, precise language, APA style, etc.).
 - Discover reputable scholarly information about psychological research.
 - Create educational and career goals to guide your undergraduate psychology experience.
 - Apply basic psychological principles to societal and/or scientific questions.
-

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Welcome to PSY 2020! I'm Meredith, and I'm here to support you as we explore the different areas of psychological science and learn to write like a scientist! Feel free to reach out to me on Canvas (where I generally respond quicker) or via email at meredith.bailey@uvu.edu

Communication Policy: I try to answer emails as quickly as I can, but generally within a day or two during the school week (Monday through Friday). If your email goes longer than this without a response, you're welcome to follow up! I've gotten better, but I have a bad habit of forgetting to hit send

sometimes. In order to achieve some work-life balance, I generally do not check my emails over the weekends. So, if you send me an email on Friday evening, I may not answer until Monday.

Student Learning Outcomes

Wolverine Skills

In this course, we don't just focus on acquiring knowledge; we aim to cultivate 'Wolverine Skills' – the resilient claws you need for success in your future careers. Throughout the semester, you will actively work to develop:

1. **Scientific Literacy:** Get ready to explore the world of scientific literacy with confidence. Throughout this journey, you'll build a solid understanding of major scientific concepts and methods. Applying this knowledge to your daily life, you'll find yourself expressing scientifically informed positions with assurance. In today's job market, employers seek individuals who can analyze information critically and make informed decisions. By gaining a foundational understanding of scientific concepts and methods, you're not only enriching your knowledge but also enhancing your problem-solving abilities, a vital skill that employers value across various industries.
2. **Communication:** By constructing arguments with solid evidence and clear reasoning, you'll develop the essential skill of expressing your ideas clearly and effectively – a valuable asset in any professional setting. The ability to communicate effectively is a linchpin in professional success. Employers consistently emphasize the importance of clear and articulate communication. By honing your communication skills in this course, you'll not only be better equipped to express complex scientific ideas but also ready to navigate professional environments with confidence.
3. **Digital Literacy:** In the realm of digital literacy, we'll focus on practical skills. You'll learn to leverage digital technologies to achieve your goals and adapt to new and emerging technologies. It's about navigating the digital landscape with confidence and making the most of available tools. In our increasingly digital world, being digitally literate is no longer a bonus – it's a necessity. Employers are on the lookout for individuals who can navigate digital landscapes with ease and adapt to new technologies seamlessly. By developing your digital literacy skills, you're preparing yourself to tackle the demands of a tech-driven workplace, making you a valuable asset in today's job market.

By the end of this semester, you will not only have a deeper understanding of psychology but also possess the razor-sharp abilities in scientific literacy, communication, and information literacy that will make you stand out in any professional arena. So, get ready to unleash your inner wolverine and thrive in the challenges that lie ahead!

Course Materials and Texts

In this course, I believe in making your learning experience engaging and relevant to the real world of psychology careers. Therefore, I do not require a traditional textbook. Instead, our journey will be guided by a carefully selected collection of articles, book chapters, podcasts, and videos. Each piece is chosen to enrich your understanding of career development in psychology, allowing you to explore various perspectives and hear directly from professionals in the field. This approach not only diversifies our learning materials but also keeps our content up-to-date with the latest insights and trends in the psychology workforce. Get ready to engage, think critically, and be inspired as we explore the many pathways your psychology career can take!

Please note that the UVU Bookstore may recommend additional “Optional Study Tools & Resources” for this class on their website. These resources are advertisements and were not selected or endorsed by your professor. Purchasing these resources is not recommended.

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

I want you to succeed, which is why I've designed multiple ways for you to showcase your learning. You'll have career development assignments, scientific writing assignments, and weekly one-pagers. These assignments together make up your grade in the course.

Grades will be determined by the following:		Grading Scale	
Assignment	Points	A	93-100
Career Development Assignments	400	A-	90-92
Scientific Writing Assignments	450	B+	87-89
One-Pagers	150	B	83-86
Total	1000	B-	80-82
		C+	77-79
		C	73-76
		C-	70-72
Standard rounding rules will be used when calculating final grades. For example, an 89.5 will be considered a 90, and thus an A-. An 89.4 will be considered an 89, and thus a B+.		D+	67-69
		D	63-66

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

You'll have access to a collection of fantastic videos and podcasts posted on Canvas each week as we learn about different aspects of career development in the field of psychology. So be sure to tune in and take advantage of the engaging content provided to make the most of your learning journey!

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion**Career Development Assignments**

This semester, you will engage in a variety of career development activities designed like a cafeteria menu, allowing you to choose assignments that resonate most with your personal and professional aspirations. These activities, ranging in levels of engagement and point values, total 400 points. This approach lets you tailor your learning experience by selecting the assignments that are most meaningful and relevant to you. As you navigate through these options, you'll not only clarify your career goals but also acquire the skills necessary to achieve them. Be sure to review the detailed instructions on Canvas to begin this empowering journey toward your future success.

One-Pagers

Get ready for a new and exciting approach to learning! Instead of stressful midterm and final exams, we'll be utilizing weekly one-pagers to help you retain information and dive deeper into the course material. Research has shown that regular reflection assignments like these are effective in promoting long-term recall, helping you retain what you learn. These one-pagers will be worth 150 points of your grade and will cover the topics from the weekly readings and videos/podcasts. So, get ready to challenge yourself and demonstrate your mastery of the course material in a fun and engaging way!

Scientific Writing

Get ready to showcase your writing skills and earn some fantastic rewards along the way! Based on my experience, I've found that breaking up the project into smaller assignments over several weeks leads to better writing, reduced stress, and growth as a writer. To help you achieve your best work, I've created a series of small assignments to build your skills and prepare you for writing an outstanding paper. Together, these assignments will be worth 450 points and are posted in detail on Canvas for your convenience.

Remember, writing is a journey, and it's okay to make mistakes along the way. That's why I encourage you to seek feedback and revision, which will help you become a better writer. To sweeten the deal, I'm excited to offer bonus points to students who visit the Writing Center and provide proof of attendance. This is a fantastic opportunity to get the support you need to excel in your writing and earn some extra credit in the process!

So, get ready to hone your writing skills and achieve your academic goals like never before. Let's embark on this exciting journey together!

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

I embrace the use of generative AI as a valuable tool for enhancing learning and creativity. Throughout the semester, there will be opportunities where incorporating generative AI, like ChatGPT, can elevate the quality of your assignments and deepen your understanding of course concepts. For certain assignments, I not only encourage but require the use of generative AI. To maintain transparency and academic integrity, please submit the **AI Acknowledgment Form** before integrating generative AI into your work. Clearly articulate the role and impact of generative AI in your assignment and include an appropriate APA citation in the reference section. Failure to submit the AI Acknowledgment Form and provide a citation will be treated as a form of academic dishonesty, with consequences outlined in the course policies above. Please refer to the course guidelines for additional details, and feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need clarification. Let's harness the benefits of generative AI while upholding academic honesty!

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.