

Thinking: Intelligence and Creativity

PSY 2180-001 Room ACB XXX

Spring 20XX



Purpose of Course:

This course satisfies the following requirement of the True Blue Core: Human Society & Social Relationships and more specifically the Explorations in Human Society and Social Relationships category. The primary required outcome for this category is critical thinking. Critical thinking is defined as *a habit of the mind characterized by the comprehensive exploration of issues, ideas, artifacts, and events in the process of accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion.*

The following Critical Thinking **learning outcomes** will be addressed in this course:

- (1) *Students will think critically by explaining issues/problems.* Students will be able to state problems/issues covered in the class clearly and comprehensively including all necessary information.
- (2) *Students will demonstrate the ability to select and use evidence.* Students will exhibit an understanding of research methods, problems and ethical issues in research, and how to interpret findings.
- (3) *Students will demonstrate the ability to consider context and assumptions.* Students will display the ability to consider other perspectives and demonstrate an understanding of the impact of culture and society on beliefs and expectations.
- (4) *Students will be able to represent their positions and conclusions logically and effectively.* Students will demonstrate the ability to justify their own conclusions after reviewing multiple perspectives and identifying the strongest evidence.

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce you to the basic theories and research on intelligence and creativity. It covers the nature of intelligence, IQ tests, and current theories of what makes for intelligent behavior. For creativity, we will discuss expertise, creativity in everyday life, and creative genius.

Course Objectives:

- (1) Students will demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles of the schools of thought in models of intelligence and creativity;
- (2) Students will demonstrate an understanding of the principles of the scientific method and be able to critically evaluate the appropriate use of research methods used by psychologists studying intelligence and creativity;
- (3) Students will demonstrate an understanding of the interaction between the environment and biology in intelligence;

- (4) Students will demonstrate an understanding of how the psychological study of intelligence and creativity have impacted our understanding of society and individuals;
- (5) Students will demonstrate an understanding of the ways in which psychological principles relate to human intelligence and creativity.

D2L (Desire to Learn): Course materials and grades will be posted on D2L. Announcements will also be posted. **Homework assignments and Critical Thinking assignments will be turned in on D2L** (Tests and Class Participation assignments will be completed and turned in during class). <https://elearn.mtsu.edu/>

Required Text (Caution):

Deary, I. J. (2020). *Intelligence: A very short introduction* (2nd Ed.). Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Course Requirements

Tests: There will be four multiple-choice exams. The questions for each test will be taken from the exam study guide. Tests are not cumulative. Each test will cover only material that has been presented in the textbook and in class since the last test. **Information that is not in the book will be presented in the class lectures.** This material will also be tested.

Tests must be taken in-person (no tests will be given on-line). Make-up tests will not be given. If you miss a test you may elect to take the "Optional Final Exam" to replace the missed test. If you will miss a test due to a school function, notify me **before** the test to schedule a time to take the test.

Optional Final Exam: The final exam is comprehensive (covers material from the entire semester) and is **NOT** required. The score on the final exam will be used to replace a test score. **Any student who has missed a test (for ANY reason: including illness, emergency, car problems, quarantining, etc.) may replace one missed score by taking the final exam.** In addition, students who wish to replace a low-test score may also take the final exam (the final exam score only replaces a test score if it is higher than the test score).

Critical Thinking/Reflection Assignments: There will be 3 short assignments worth 5 points each based on the information covered in each of the 4 tests. For each assignment **type 1 to 2 paragraphs** describing how the information covered in this part of the course relates to your life, helps you understand a real-life situation, or helps you solve a real-life problem. In your description use the terminology you have learned in class. **Each paper will be turned into a drop box on D2L** on the first-class day after the test (the last assignment will be due before the test for grading purposes). **Do not plagiarize.** Turn-It-In will be activated to screen for plagiarism. This includes self-plagiarism (turning in your own work that has already been turned in for a different class). **Grading:** 1 point for grammar; 2 points for information from class; 2 points for relating information from class to your life. Except in extreme circumstances, these assignments will not be accepted late.

In-Class, Small-Group Assignments: There will be 8 in-class, small-group assignments worth 5 points each. **You must be present during class time to complete and receive credit for each assignment.**

Classroom Policies

Academic Integrity/Misconduct: Please review the [information on Academic Integrity and Misconduct](#). Academic integrity is a hallmark of Middle Tennessee State University. We expect students to complete academic exercises, (i.e., assignments turned in for credit), that are original and appropriately credit all sources used.

Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. **Plagiarism:** The adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, statements, images, or works of another person as one's own without proper attribution. **This includes self-plagiarism, which occurs when an author submits material or research from a previous academic exercise to satisfy the requirements of another exercise and uses it without proper citation of its reuse.**
2. **Cheating:** Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. This includes unapproved collaboration, which occurs when a student works with others on an academic exercise without the express permission of the professor. It also includes purchasing assignments or paying another person to complete a course for you.
3. **Fabrication:** Unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.

Going online and using information without proper citation, copying parts of other students' work, creating information to establish credibility, or using someone else's thoughts or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment is academic misconduct. **Turning in AI generated work is also considered academic misconduct.** If you have a question about an assignment, please ask me to clarify. All cases of academic misconduct will be reported to the Director of Student Academic Ethics and may result in failure on the test/assignment or for the course.

When students participate in behavior that is considered to be academic misconduct, the value of their education and that of their classmates is lessened, and their academic careers are jeopardized.

Students guilty of academic misconduct are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions (**including expulsion from the university**), which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign an "F" or zero for an activity or to assign an "F" for the course. Students guilty of plagiarism will be immediately reported to the Director of Student Academic Ethics.

Attendance: Class attendance is required. It is very difficult to pass this class if you

have poor attendance. **In addition, Class Participation assignments will be completed during class.** In emergency situations, students can watch the live streamed version of the lecture in Panopto on D2L (click videos at the top). In the case of extreme circumstances such as prolonged illness or COVID related absences, please contact me. The MTSU Academic Alert System will be used to report poor attendance. (MTSU's Attendance Policy <https://www.mtsu.edu/policies/academic-affairs-students/311-A.php>)

Disruptive Class Behavior: A problem we sometimes see in classes (especially large ones) involves students talking excessively or engaging in other disruptive behaviors that interfere with the ability of their classmates to concentrate on or hear the course material. In accordance with the MTSU Student Conduct Policy (<https://www.mtsu.edu/student-conduct/integrity.php>), these types of behaviors will not be tolerated. Students engaging in disruptive behaviors will be asked to move or leave the classroom. Disruptive students may also be referred to the Assistant Dean of Judicial Affairs for further disciplinary actions. **Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off and put away before class begins. Lap top computers may be used but only for class purposes. Texting, emailing, etc., is not allowed during class.** Be **on time** to class and **do not enter and leave the classroom once class has begun.** If you must leave early, please notify me ahead of time and sit near an exit.

Reasonable Accommodation For Students With Disabilities: Middle Tennessee State University is committed to campus access in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any student interested in reasonable accommodations can contact the [Disability & Access Center \(DAC\)](#) for assistance at 615-898-2783 or dacemail@mtsu.edu ADA accommodation requests (temporary or permanent) are determined only by the Disability & Access Center (DAC) Students are responsible for contacting the Disability & Access Center Office to obtain ADA accommodations and for providing the instructor with the Accommodation Letter from the Disability & Access Center.

Grades

Grades will be based on the total points earned on the 4 tests, the 3 Critical Thinking/Reflection assignments, and the in-class, small-group assignments. Standard percentages will be used to determine grades.

Percentages	Grade
90% - 100%	A
87.5% - 89.9%	B+
82.5% - 87.49%	B
80% - 82.49%	B-
77.5% - 79.99%	C+
72.5% - 77.49%	C

70% - 72.49%	C-
67.5% - 69.99%	D+
62.5% - 67.49%	D
60% - 62.49%	D-
0.00%-59.99%	F

Posting on-line or sharing of any exams, homework answers, or other assignments by students is not permitted. Also, the unauthorized use of any of these types of materials is not allowed.

Dropping a Course

Sunday March 26th is the last day you can drop a course and receive a "W". You must use Pipeline to drop a course.

Attention: Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarships

Do you have a lottery scholarship? To retain the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship eligibility, you must earn a cumulative TELS GPA of 2.75 after 24 and 48 attempted hours and a cumulative TELS GPA of 3.0 thereafter. A grade of C, D, F, FA, or I in this class may negatively impact TELS eligibility. If you drop this class, withdraw, or if you stop attending this class you may lose eligibility for your lottery scholarship, and you may not be able to regain eligibility at a later time. For additional Lottery rules, please refer to your [Lottery Statement of Understanding form](#) or contact your [MT One Stop Enrollment Counselor](#).

Title IX Statement

MTSU **faculty are** concerned about the well-being and development of our students and are **legally obligated** to share reports of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking with the University's Title IX coordinator to help ensure student's safety and welfare. Please refer to [MTSU's Title IX website](#) for contact information and details. <http://www.mtsu.edu/titleix/>

Technical Support

Students who experience technical problems including, but not limited to, logging into their course, timing out of their course, using the course web site tools, should contact the [MTSU Help Desk](#) online (24/7) or at 1-615-898-5345.

Writing Center

The Margaret H. Ordoubadian University Writing Center is located in LIB 362 and online at www.mtsu.edu/writing-center. Here, students can receive valuable (and FREE!) one-to-one assistance on writing projects for any course. Conferences are available by appointment (615-904-8237). Visit early and often!

Regarding Pre-Recorded/Panopto Lectures: Students have a responsibility:

- To use recorded materials as intended and to review recorded classes or alternative materials in case of absence and in order to complete class assignments.
- To respect the privacy of the instructor and students and comply with FERPA, which means:
 - To not create personal video or audio recordings of the class session without advance written permission from the professor or the appropriate DAC accommodation.
 - To use recordings for course purposes only.
 - **To not distribute any recorded material to any person not enrolled in the class.**
 - If given permission to make a personal video of a class session, to destroy said recordings at the end of the course term. [\[i\]](#)
 - To recognize the potential consequences both academic and legal for violating the privacy of the instructor or fellow students. [\[ii\]](#)*

Where to Find Everything and How to Turn in Assignments

1. **Grades:** under *Assessments*, then *Grades*.
2. **Recorded Lectures:** Under *Content*. Each Chapter is under a separate sub-module. **Print out the PDF of the slides**, then attend the Class to fill in the blanks. **If you miss class** watch the YouTube recorded lecture and take notes on the printed slides. **Links to the videos described in each YouTube lecture are found in the description box under the YouTube video (to see the links the video must be viewed in YouTube).**
3. **Panopto Video/Live Stream:** Under *Videos* on D2L. Click on the video to live stream. You will **not** be able to hear the students in class or the videos shown in class. **Watching the pre-recorded lectures may be a better option.** You can also watch the Panopto video of the course at a later time (it is recorded).
4. **Experience/Critical Thinking Papers.** These papers will be submitted under *Assessments* then *Drop Box*. A description of each assignment will be provided in the Instructions section of the drop box. Assignments should be **saved in MS Word** and then uploaded to the drop box.
5. **Study Guides:** Go to *Content* then *Study Guides and Study Group Materials*.

Reading Assignment and Test Schedule

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(See the Detailed Schedule on D2L under *Content* for Other Assignment Dates)

Topics

Models of Human Intelligence	Chapters 1
Aging; Sex Differences	Chapters 2-3
Environments and Genes; Processing Speed	Chapters 4-5

*******Test 1*******

Brain; School and Workplace	Chapters 6-7
Health and Longevity	Chapters 8-9

*******Test 2*******

Biological Bases of Creativity	(Textbook under consideration.)
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Studying Creativity in the Lab
Characteristics of Creative Individuals
Creativity and Mood Disorders (Part I)
Expertise

*******Test 3*******

Genius: Social Background	(Textbook under consideration.)
Genius: Home Environment	
Genius: Personal Characteristics	
Creativity and Mood Disorder (Part II)	
Simonton's Theory of Talent	

*******Test 4*******

*******Optional Final Exam*******

Note: The Optional Final Exam can be used to replace a missed test or a low-test score.