

PSYCHOLOGY 1300: LEARNING FRAMEWORKS
FALL - 2021

☐ **SECT:** ____ **M T W R** ____ - ____ **AM / PM** **ROOM:** ____

Instructor:	G. A. Palazzo, M.A.
Email:	gino.palazzo@brazosport.edu
Student Success Dept. Phone:	979-230-3527 (Karen Foster - Dept. Contact)
Office Hours:	Prior to class, following class, or by appointment

WELCOME:

Well done! By enrolling in this course you are showing that you take your college experience seriously and intend to become a learner who takes responsibility for his/her academic success.

We hope you will not only learn a lot in this course but you will find it fun and engaging. Each lesson is made up of a series of different activities so you won't be expected to listen to me lecture the whole time! In fact, we will co-create the experience by fully participating in the discussions, being an active member of the various peer-group activities, and communicating to me your thoughts and suggestions about the material we are about to share with you.

This course will only be challenging for anyone who refuses to bring 100% commitment to each lesson. That's not you...so let us look forward to your earning of an A!

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course has been designed to expose students to a very different experience to what they may have had in other courses - in terms of:

- A welcoming environment
- Strong community-building component - including establishing trust with the instructor and clarifying course expectations in a fun, inclusive way
- Stimulating motivation for attendance and participation
- Connecting the purpose of this course (for example, math success and for overall success in college) with the student's personal interests and future direction.

The various topics being covered include: goal-setting, effective time management, note-taking strategies, how to undo "bad" academic habits, test-taking strategies, how to read a textbook, and much, much more.



Get the information you need - when you need it. Click **<http://geni.us/BRAZO>** to install BC Connect on your mobile device to receive reminders, explore careers, map your educational plan, be in the know about events, find out about scholarships, achieve your goals and much more.

BOOK Required for CLASS:

Outliers, The Story of Success by Malcolm Gladwell

ISBN # 97800-316-01793-0

Required course materials are available at the Brazosport College **bookstore**, on campus or online at <http://www.brazosport.edu/bookstore>. A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college bookstore. The same book/textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

***There is: NO COURSE TEXTBOOK**

In lieu of a textbook, students may be required to print copies of course handouts, articles, and materials before class. Instruction will be given and made available to enrolled students on how to access course materials.

REQUIRED READINGS/SUPPLIES:

The instructor will occasionally distribute reading assignments. Students are required to read all assigned material. The reading load is not designed to be heavy. As with any lecture or discussion material, any reading material is fair game for exams, quizzes, or in-class discussions.

Other Supplies:

- USB Flash Drive (*To Save Course Work*)
- **Binder**
- Paper / Pen / Pencil

BINDER should be 2-2 1/2" thick: For Materials & Handouts

Place **Syllabus at front**, and keep your **Binder organized by topic**.

Save all your assignments until you receive your final grade in MyBc.

D2L (Virtual Campus) Note - You should refer to **D2L** often. Information may be posted in the "**News**" section of **D2L** which you will be responsible for. Also, you will be asked to use **D2L** for portions of the class. **D2L** is technology and, therefore, can experience "glitches." Due to this, use good time management skills and always begin immediately any work that uses **D2L**. A **D2L** "glitch" is not an acceptable excuse on work that is not turned in on time.

ARTICLES TO BE READ / Brought To Class:

During the semester, you will be required to go to **D2L (Virtual Campus)** for certain materials. You may be required to read and/or print and/or bring to class articles that will be found on **D2L**. You may only be required to fill out a paper about reading assignments.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:

A student's enrollment in this class acknowledges he/she intends to learn course material. To that extent, certain behaviors that would impede this process will not be permitted. These include, but are not limited to, reading newspapers or books, text-messaging, surfing the web, answering cell phones, talking out of turn, etc. If you are not sure what is appropriate, please ask me. Students are responsible for knowing and following common sense rules of

behavior. We are committed to creating and maintaining an open and productive intellectually engaging learning environment. Disruptive students will be instructed to leave the classroom - this is college, warnings will not be issued. Please also read the **RESPECTFUL CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR** document (Appendix A) for more information about appropriate behaviors and classroom expectations.

AS A COLLEGE STUDENT, you are expected to conduct yourself as a responsible adult. This includes, but is not limited to, attending class, seeking academic help, and addressing any problems you may have *directly with* your instructors. Rights and responsibilities of BC students are outlined in the BC Student Handbook and Calendar.

OBJECTIONABLE MATERIAL WARNING:

This is a college course and students should know that anything is fair game. The college classroom is a unique place in society where any ideas, opinions, and perspectives are welcomed and should be shared--respectfully. Students will find some of the material offensive, as they should. No inappropriate language.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this semester, through class lectures, videos, discussions, in-class activities, and a variety of written and other assignments, you will increase your written and oral communication skills, critical thinking abilities, and toolbox of study strategies.

Course Objectives / Outcomes:

1. Students will determine their mindset about learning and how the awareness of such can maintain their motivation (drive).
2. Students will explore alternative skills that will allow them to change their negative self-defeating and ineffective counter-productive habits.
3. Students will be made aware of the opportunities to interact with classmates, instructors, and other college personnel (example via Scavenger Hunt, Library Instruction & Academic Support Services).
4. Students develop and pursue useful goals.
5. Students demonstrate organization of time and study materials.
6. Students describe how to store and retrieve information from their memory.
7. Students demonstrate effective reading and note-taking strategies that enhance retention and comprehension.
8. Students distinguish effective test-taking strategies to be used before, during, and after taking a test.
9. Students demonstrate critical thinking skills when approaching decisions and tasks.
10. Students demonstrate written and oral communication that is appropriate to content and that effectively conveys meaning and logic.
11. Students will gather research, analyze data, and apply knowledge to future college and career pathways.
12. Students use technology throughout the course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS / GRADING:

Students are required to complete all assignments, participate in class discussions and submit all written work according to the stated deadline. College instructors expect students to spend time outside of class reading, writing, and studying course material. Specifically, for every hour you are in class you need to study for two-to-three hours. This means working on this

class material for approximately one hundred hours outside of class. This is college!

The breakdown of the requirements is as follows:

20%	Writings/Assignments	SEE: <i>Individual Syllabus Notes</i>
10%	Participation	
15%	Midterm Exam	
15%	Final Exam	
10%	Library: Intro to Research	
10%	Final Project - <i>Outliers</i>	
10%	Quizzes	
10%	Attendance	

Semester grades will be earned as follows:

90% and Above	A
80% - 89%	B
70% - 79%	C
60% - 69%	D
59.9% and Below	F

WRITINGS/ASSIGNMENTS: (20% of semester grade):

The biggest single percentage of points for this course comes from completing regular writing assignments. These assignments are designed to help you reflect upon the course material, your experiences outside of class and college, and stimulate new insights on becoming a more successful learner overall. The highest points will be received by students who demonstrate **thought** in their writing, **adhere to** the required paper lengths for the assigned papers, and who take care in communicating their thoughts through use of proper spelling, grammar, and complete sentences. Please be sure to type your papers (see section on "guidelines" for written work). When papers are returned to you, please put them in your binder. **You will be graded on: Introduction, Understanding of Topic, Reflection, Application, and Grammar.**

Further instruction on the value of writing and feedback on these activities will be given throughout the course.

ATTENDANCE: (10% of semester grade)

Attendance is mandatory. You are expected to attend every class, to arrive on time, and to remain the entire period. Likewise, you will frequently participate in in-class activities. It is the student's responsibility to find out what was missed in the case of an absence. *In college, absences are normally not excused.*

A STUDENT MUST SIGN IN AT EACH CLASS, OTHERWISE BE CONSIDERED ABSENT!

***** Students will be WITHDRAWN** if they miss the maximum number of classes listed below (see chart). Being tardy and leaving early will count as part of an absence (**15 minute rule**). The instructor will complete required paperwork for an **ADMINISTRATIVE WITHDRAWAL** only if the student misses the number of classes stated below.

It is the student's responsibility to WITHDRAW from a course if circumstances occur that could prevent the student from successfully completing the course.

Students should notify the instructor of the decision to withdraw and must not expect nor assume the instructor will complete the paperwork for the student.

This Semester: The Last Day To Withdraw From Classes At Brazosport College Will Be: **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8th**

CLASS:	MEETINGS PER WKS:	NUMBER (#) OF MISSED CLASSES - RESULTING IN THE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COURSE:
16 WEEKS	3 TIMES	5 (FIVE)
16 WEEKS	2 TIMES	4 (FOUR)
16 WEEKS	1 TIME	2 (TWO)
11 WEEKS	2 TIMES	3 (THREE)
6 WEEKS	4 TIMES	3 (THREE)
4 WEEKS	4 TIMES	2 (TWO)

PERCENTS

16 WEEK CLASS THAT MEETS 3 TIMES EACH WEEK:

0-100%

1-80%

2-60%

3-40%

4-20%

5 = WITHDRAWN FROM COURSE

16 WEEK CLASS THAT MEETS 2 TIMES EACH WEEK:

0-100%

1-75%

2-50%

3-25%

4 = WITHDRAWN FROM COURSE

16 WEEK CLASS THAT MEETS 1 TIME EACH WEEK:

0-100%

1-50%

2 = WITHDRAWN FROM COURSE

11 WEEK CLASS THAT MEETS 2 TIMES EACH WEEK:

0-100%

1-75%

2-50%

3 = WITHDRAWN FROM COURSE

6 WEEK CLASS THAT MEETS 4 TIMES EACH WEEK:

0-100%

1-75%

2-50%

3 = WITHDRAWN FROM COURSE

4 WEEK CLASS THAT MEETS 4 TIMES EACH WEEK:

0-100%

1-50%

2 = WITHDRAWN FROM COURSE

PARTICIPATION: (10% of Semester Grade)

During The Semester, Assignments Will Be Given To Work On Both Inside And Outside Of Class That Will Count Toward Your Participation Grade.

The college classroom is a place for individuals to come together with the common purpose of improving their intellectual and academic skills. All students deserve a classroom environment that is free of interruptions or distractions that impede learning. Because active participation in class discussions is essential, it is important that all students are fully prepared for class each day. Disruptive activity that hinders other students' learning or deters an instructor from effective teaching will not be tolerated. Students who become a disruption will be asked to leave class and will not be able to return until they have had an independent meeting with the instructor and/or the Dean of Student Services.

QUIZZES: (10% of Semester Grade)

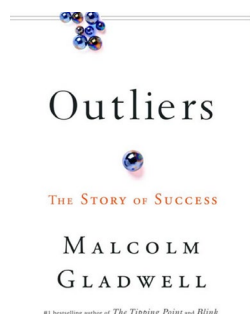
At the beginning of some classes, students may have a brief quiz over the material from the last class or readings from the book. Instructors will indicate quiz dates and material to be included in class. There will be no make-up quizzes - no exceptions. If you are late to class, the instructor will decide whether you will be allowed to take the quiz. You may not use notes or material for the quizzes. If you do, you will receive a "0."

INTRODUCTION TO ("Library") RESEARCH PROJECT (ITR): (10% of Semester Grade)

One of the major projects you will complete this semester is: *The Introduction to Research "Library" Project* (10%). More details for this project will be provided in class at the appropriate time.

FINAL - PROJECT: "OUTLIERS" (10% of Semester Grade)

Students **will** participate in this in-class Book project. The book reading assignments, related class activities (*to include quizzes*), and the semester project are designed to get students to discuss and understand important issues related to student success.



Students are *required* to acquire and read the following book for the book discussions, quizzes and the 10% semester project. **See:** Section regarding Book/course materials (Top of Page 2).

Outliers: The Story of Success by **Malcolm Gladwell**, Back Bay Books, Publisher **ISBN** 978-0-316-01793-0

Details of the Semester Project portion will be presented later in the semester.

EXAMS: (30% of Semester Grade)

Students will complete two exams this semester - a **midterm** (15%) and a **final** exam (15%). More details will be given in class, including how to prepare to "ace" these exams. EXAMS MAY NOT BE TAKEN OR SUBMITTED LATE.

GUIDELINES FOR WRITTEN WORK:

In-class assignments and other written assignments must be completed in blue or black ink - any other work will not be graded. In-class work must also follow normal guidelines of Standard English - this includes complete sentences. Of course, you are not expected to create polished in-class work.

Out-of-class assignments must be typed with **Times New Roman size 12** as the font, with **one-inch margins** on all four sides, and double-spaced. Please note that correct spelling, grammar, and a clear, easy-to-read format all count toward your grade. Use professional/formal/college English (this means NOT using text-message language, contractions, clichés, or slang, for example). Use MLA guidelines. Do not use Google Docs, nor send links to Google Docs documents, when completing and submitting your work. Google Docs documents must be converted to MS-Word format for submission.

When graded work is handed back, you should wait 24 hours before asking any questions about the grade. During this time, you should review the feedback and any relevant notes. Grades will only be changed if mistakes were made by the instructor. You should have prepared clear and specific questions before inquiring about why a certain grade was assigned to your work.

LATE WORK POLICY:

Since a core focus of this course is to prepare you for experiences in higher education and/or your future in the workplace, completing work on time is considered highly desirable and an important asset to develop. **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Assignments turned in LATE will NOT be graded and WILL BE given a ZERO. *This policy is subject to change only with EXTREME extenuating circumstances.* **Assignments are due IN CLASS, at the beginning of class, the day they are due.** If you do not receive an assignment back from your instructor, it is your responsibility to follow up with the instructor.

Computer problems, printer problems, and technical difficulties are not acceptable reasons for late work. Ample amounts of computers, printers, and technical support are available and accessible throughout the BC campus.

On campus printers are available in the Student Success Center, Library, Learning Services and many computer labs. The cost is approx. 10 cents per copy.

Please discuss any issues with your instructor.

When absences occur on an assignment due date, the assignment is *still* due. There are **TWO (2)** options:

1) Students may have someone deliver the assignment to the instructor by the time the assignment is due.

2) **An E-mail message** to the instructor with the **MS-Office formatted assignment attached**, having arrived by the due date hour, may also be accepted. - **Note:**

When sending, students are to use their **BC E-mail account, only**, and to "**cc**" (**copy**) **themselves**, in the **e-mail**. If using the e-mail option, students will still need to bring a hard copy of the assignment to the next class meeting.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Brazosport College assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct including academic honesty. *The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone.* Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the Brazosport College Student Guide for more information. This is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu>.

Academic dishonesty violates both the policies of this course and the Student Code of Conduct. In this class, any occurrence of academic dishonesty will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for prompt adjudication, and may, at a minimum, result in a grade of zero (0) on the assignment/quiz/test where the instance occurred and a second instance will result in an automatic **F** in this course. Sanctions may be imposed beyond your grade in this course by the Dean of Student Services.

Remember that your integrity is far more valuable and lasting than a grade. It's not a good trade!

STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE ALL WORK INDEPENDENTLY UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED. PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, OR ANY RELATED OFFENSIVES WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC ZERO FOR THAT ASSIGNMENT - NO EXCEPTIONS; NO EXCUSES WILL BE TOLERATED!

See: Pages 13-18 in your Student Guide and Calendar for more specific information.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. BC offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist students with special needs. For student to receive any **accommodation**, documentation must be completed in the Office of Disability Services. Please contact **Phil Robertson**, Special Populations Counselor, at **(979) 230-3236** for further information.

TITLE IX STATEMENT:

Brazosport College faculty and staff are committed to supporting students and upholding the College District's non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX and Brazosport College's policy FFDA (Local), discrimination based on sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression is prohibited. If you experience an incident of discrimination, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty or staff member at BC, please understand that they are "Responsible Employees" and must report what you tell them to college officials. You can also contact the Title IX Coordinators directly by using the contact information below. Additional information is

found on the Sexual Misconduct webpage at
www.brazosport.edu/sexualmisconduct.

Mareille Rolon, HR Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator
Office C-114; 979-230-3303; mareille.rolon@brazosport.edu

E-MAIL BASICS:

Communicating with others via email is an important skill to succeed in today's world. It is critical to know the audience when communicating in this medium. When you communicate with your instructors or your peers, you should be mindful of how your message may be interpreted. Please consider the following guide when communicating with instructors:

1. Appropriate salutation (Ex. Dear Mr. /Ms. Smith, or Dear Dr. Jones,).
2. Brief introduction of yourself (especially important early on in the semester) so the instructor knows who you are.
3. Subject heading that includes the class identifier.
4. Subject heading that indicates the general nature of your communication (e.g., Question about Career Project).
5. Polite closing (e.g., Thanks, Best Wishes, Sincerely, Cheers, etc.).
6. Write a short message that is to the point.
7. PROOFREAD, PROOFREAD, & PROOFREAD.
8. Avoid slang, text-message language, and acronyms (e.g., LOL).
9. Avoid sending an email when you are angry or upset.

College policy requires instructors to communicate and respond to students via the student Brazosport College e-mail, only. Due to this, messages from private e-mails will not be responded to, unless there are extreme circumstances. (Loss of password, is not an example of an extreme circumstance)

***Please check your MyBc e-mail - Every Day.**

TIPS FOR BEING SUCCESSFUL:

This is not designed to be a difficult course. If you attend every class, take quality notes, complete assignments, and study outside of class, you should have no problem earning a good grade in this course. The instructor is available to students for any questions or concerns about the subject material.

DISCLAIMER:

THE COURSE INSTRUCTORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO ANY PART OF THE COURSE REQUIREMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS, POLICIES, DEADLINES, CONTENT, ETC. You are responsible for keeping track of any and all changes. The instructors assign grades solely based on performance, not effort or anything else. If you anticipate any difficulty meeting course requirements or deadlines, you should contact the instructors well in advance. If an emergency should happen (e.g., hospitalization), formal documentation is required, and the instructor will be more than happy to help the student to complete the course successfully.

COPYRIGHT PROTECTION:

All federal and state copyrights reserved for all original material presented in this course through any medium, including lecture or print. Unless

otherwise noted, all course materials are the intellectual property of the instructors and are thus copyrighted. Individuals are prohibited from being paid for taking, selling, or otherwise transferring for value, personal class or other information notes made during this course to any entity without the express written permission of the instructors. In addition to legal sanctions, students found in violation of these prohibitions may be subject to disciplinary action from the college administration.

Syllabus Appendix A

RESPECTFUL CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

We All Benefit When:

- Everyone feels comfortable and free to share their thoughts in a safe and supportive environment. Please consider this before challenging, questioning, or contradicting the input of other students.
- All students understand they are being listened to in their own time, in their own way. This includes students who make speak slower or take a longer time to articulate their thoughts than you. Please do not interrupt a student who is still speaking; wait until they have finished before making your contribution to the discussion.
- We actively listen to other's opinions and insights. "Active listening" means staying engaged.
- Contributions made to discussions are thoughtful and supported by examples (to make the meaning clearer) or evidence (e.g., sharing the original source).
- We are willing to take risks in sharing opinions that might be different to those ascribed to by the majority. Diversity of thought is as much a classroom asset as all other, more established, forms of diversity!
- You do not just accept something the instructor says - that you do not understand or agree with - without comment. No instructor minds being intellectually challenged, as long as it is done respectfully.
- Someone asks a question...because chances are, someone else in the class wanted the answer but were too shy or nervous to ask. So you are doing someone else, not just yourself, a favor, when asking questions.
- We choose to engage fully in class discussions. Let us make them as lively and rich as possible; that is your responsibility as well as the instructor's.

Additional points to consider on making contributions:

- If you only thought of something after we had concluded class, take the opportunity to raise the issue in an online thread (Blackboard or equivalent).
- Remain open-minded! It is a myth that smart people stick to their original views. In fact, the smartest people are those who are willing to be swayed by reasoned argument and revise their views and opinions accordingly.
- Do take the opportunity to further class discussions in your Success Teams and/or study groups. The more you actively "work with" the material we cover, the more embedded in long-term memory it will be.
- Remember, the richness of this course experience - for you and for your peers - depends on you playing an active role in contributing to discussions. Speak up!

Covid-19 Statement:

At Brazosport College, all of us, including faculty, staff and students, share a common goal this fall semester, to keep our classes running in the safest manner possible and avoid any disruption to your progress in achieving your educational and career goals. To that end, we ask and encourage you to conduct yourself in the following manner while on campus this semester:

- Every day, perform a self-health check prior to coming to campus and stay home if sick.
- To the greatest extent possible, maintain your distance between you and other students, faculty, and staff while on campus.
- Wear a properly fitted face covering over your mouth and nose while indoors on campus. If you do not have a mask, they will be available to you in all classrooms this fall.
- Practice good hygiene, washing your hands regularly and/or using hand sanitizer.
- The most effective way to protect yourself from Covid-19 is through vaccination. The vaccine is readily available and at no cost to you. Vaccine information and availability can be found at <https://brazosport.edu/coronavirus/vaccine/>.

If at any time this semester you begin to experience Covid symptoms, or if you are exposed to someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, please take the following steps:

- Stay home if you're feeling sick and minimize your contact with others.
- Alert the College by completing the Covid-19 Exposure Report Form online at <https://brazosport.edu/coronavirus/report/>. Be sure to provide accurate contact information, including a working phone number that you will answer.
- After submitting the report, you will be promptly contacted by a member of our Rapid Response Team, who will ask you some specific questions about your situation and provide you with guidance moving forward.
- If it is determined that you should not come to class, your instructor will be notified. **Please know that your instructor will consider course adjustments and potential make-up work only if your case has been reported to Brazosport College, and they've been notified by our response team.** Your instructor will work with you to determine how to manage any make-up work.

The Community Health Network (CHN) Clinic at Brazosport College (located in BC Central B-Wing) is scheduled to be open from 8 AM to 6 PM Tuesday through Thursday during the Fall 2021 semester. While walk-ins are available, your visit will be easier if you pre-register by creating an account at www.mychn.org. In addition to providing health and behavioral services, CHN also provides COVID vaccinations and testing. All insurance is accepted and healthcare is provided on a sliding scale including no cost for those who need it.

Throughout the semester, please regularly check the College's Covid-19 information page at <https://brazosport.edu/coronavirus/>, where the latest updates and guidelines will be posted. As members of the BC community, all of us share a responsibility to each other to be as safe as possible.

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Carefully Detach This Page.

Fill Out The Contract Information Below, Sign, Date and Return This Sheet To Your Instructor, After Reading Your Syllabus Document.

LEARNING FRAMEWORKS: SYLLABUS CONTRACT

I (insert full name - print) _____, confirm that I have read and understood the **syllabus** for Learning Frameworks and fully commit to adhering to the instructions given, including appendices.

Signed: _____

Date: _____