

# PSY 1730: Strategies for Academic Success

SPRING 2007

MWF 8:30a-9:20a RWST 214

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Office Hours:

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## Required Materials:

Course Text: Holschuh, J. P., & Nist, S. L. (2007). *Effective College Learning*. NY: Pearson/Longman

Binder: Three-ringed binder with section tabs and three-hole punched lined paper

Three-hole Punch

Index Cards

E-mail Account: USU e-mail account (go to any Open Access Computer Lab for assistance)

**Academic Resource Center Web Site:** [www.usu.edu/arc](http://www.usu.edu/arc)

## Course Description

Basic academic strategies and study skills are necessary for success in college. This course provides students with the opportunity to discover their individual learning styles and beliefs. This course introduces students to applied academic strategies and study skills during class exercises and assignments. Then students are required to generalize newly acquired strategies beyond the Psychology 1730 environment to other academic courses.

## Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will have met the following objectives:

1. Identify personal learning styles and beliefs that may affect academic success.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic academic strategies and study skills necessary for being successful in college.
3. Demonstrate the ability to apply the basic academic strategies and study skills during class exercises and assignments.
4. Demonstrate the ability to apply the basic academic strategies and study skills to an academic course outside of the Psy 1730 environment.

## Course Assignments

Text Reading and Study Aids: 145 points

You must read all assigned textbook or other resource material *before* the class session it is due. You must also create a complete set of study aids for that assigned reading.

Quizzes: 140 points

You must complete 7 in-class quizzes. These quizzes will test your knowledge of the basic academic strategies and study skills presented in class, as well as your ability to apply them.

Lab Sessions: 240 points

You must attend 12 lab sessions, actively participate in all session activities, and complete all session exercises. These lab sessions will give you the opportunity to apply the basic academic strategies and study skills presented during regular class lectures.

Study Strategy Assignments: 475 points

You must complete 12 study strategy assignments. These assignments will be used to provide you with the opportunity to practice the study strategies and skills presented in class, as well as the opportunity to apply some of those strategies and skills in an academic course outside of the Psy 1730 environment. All or part of these assignments will be associated with lab sessions.

50 points	Pre-Assessments	50 points	Text Reading
50 points	Sources of Support	25 points	Visual Organizers
50 points	Time Management	25 points	Goal Follow-up #2
25 points	Learning Profile	25 points	Exams
25 points	Goal Follow-up #1	50 points	Library Research
50 points	Note Taking	50 points	Post Assessments

**Course Grades**

Requirements	Points
Chapters & Study Aids [15 chapters/articles @ 5-10 points each]	145
Quizzes [7 quizzes @ 20 points each]	140
Lab Sessions [12 Labs @ 20 points each]	240
Study Strategy Assignments	475
<b>Total Possible</b>	<b>1000</b>

Points	Percent	Grade	Points	Percent	Grade
950-1,000	95-100%	A	730-769	73-76%	C
900-949	90-94%	A-	700-729	70-72%	C-
870-899	87-89%	B+	650-699	65-69%	D+
830-869	83-86%	B	600-649	60-64%	D
800-829	80-82%	B-	0-599	▼ 59%	F
770-799	77-79%	C+			

## Course Policies and Procedures

**Participation.** You are expected to participate in all class and lab discussions, as well as individual and small group exercises and assignments. There is a very high correlation between class participation and high grades. Much of your learning will occur as a result of your participation.

**Class Disruption.** Disruptive behavior is not tolerated in class. Cell phones, pagers, MP3 players, etc. must be turned off during class. You are also expected to behave in an adult manner; therefore, you are expected to participate in a productive manner and refrain from small group or side discussions with other class members unless dictated by an assignment or by the instructor. Disruptive or disrespectful behavior may result in a loss of points.

**Attendance and Tardiness.** You are expected to attend all class sessions, and arrive at each session on time. You are allowed three (3) "free" regular class absences. For each additional absence, five (5) percentage points will be deducted from your final grade. **NO** lab sessions will be excused unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor. One (1) percentage point will also be deducted from your final grade each time you come to class late or leave early. Maintaining a connection with your instructor is always a good policy whenever you are absent or tardy.

**Late Assignments.** For in-class and lab exercises, you must be in attendance on the day an exercise is completed. No make-up exercises will be given unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor. For all homework assignments, you must turn them in during class on the day they are due unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor. All homework assignments may be reworked and resubmitted to improve a score. You must resubmit the assignment within one week following its original due date.

**Plagiarism and Cheating.** Academic honesty is expected of all students. Plagiarism (using someone else's words or ideas in a direct quote, paraphrase, or summary form and submitting them as your own) or cheating of *any kind* is not tolerated. If academic dishonesty is suspected, USU policies will be followed. Details of the USU Honor Code, expectations, and disciplinary procedures can be found on this Web site: <[http://studentlife.tsc.usu.edu/stuserv/pdf/honor\\_system.pdf](http://studentlife.tsc.usu.edu/stuserv/pdf/honor_system.pdf)>.

**Course Fees.** You have been assessed a \$10.00 fee for this course. The purpose of this fee is to provide the following:

1. Pre and post assessment of students' strengths, weaknesses, and barriers to academic success. Students' receive printed reports describing their personal results.
2. Access to training videos that describe and model learning strategies.
3. Printed and online materials that support students' efforts to develop academic study strategies. Materials include activity sheets for group projects and handouts of supplemental information.
4. Consumable supplies used as part of class demonstrations, activities, or exercises.

Students with physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, 797-2444 voice, 797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print or digital) are available with advance notice.

## TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE—SPRING 2007

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment	Quiz
Mon, Jan 8	Introduction: Syllabus			
Wed, Jan 10	Introduction: Binders & Course Text Reading			
Fri, Jan 12	Introduction: Teams		<b>Pre-Assessments</b>	
Mon, Jan 15	HOLIDAY! Martin Luther King, Jr. Day			
Wed, Jan 17	College vs. High School	Chapter 1	Chp 1 Aids	
Fri, Jan 19	Self-Responsibility	Article	Article Aids	
Mon, Jan 22	Motivation, Attitudes, and Interests	Chapter 3	Chp 3 Aids	Quiz 1
Wed, Jan 24	Motivation, Attitudes, and Interests			
Fri, Jan 26	<b>LAB Session: Setting Goals</b>		<b>Sources of Support</b>	
Mon, Jan 29	Dealing with Change!			
Wed, Jan 31	Organizing Yourself and Your Time	Chapter 2	Chp 2 Aids	
Fri, Feb 2	Figuring Out the Task	Chapter 7	Chp 7 Aids	Quiz 2
Mon, Feb 5	<b>LAB Session: Semester &amp; Weekly Planners</b>		<b>Time Management</b>	
Wed, Feb 7	Beliefs and Their Impact on Learning	Chapter 4	Chp 4 Aids	
Fri, Feb 9	How People Learn: Memory	Chapter 6	Chp 6 Aids	
Mon, Feb 12	How People Learn: Concentration			
Wed, Feb 14	How People Learn: Learning Styles			
Fri, Feb 16	<b>LAB Session: Learning Profiles</b>		<b>Learning Profile</b>	Quiz 3
Mon, Feb 19	HOLIDAY! President's Day			
Tues, Feb 20	Note Taking: Your Task in Class	Chapter 8	Chp 8 Aids	
Wed, Feb 21	Note Taking: Your Task in Class			
Fri, Feb 23	Note Taking: Your Task in Class		<b>Goal Follow-up #1</b>	
Mon, Feb 26	<b>LAB Session: Note Taking</b>		<b>Note Taking</b>	
Wed, Feb 28	Active Reading: Introduction			Quiz 4
Fri, Mar 2	Active Reading: Reading as a Conversation			
Mon, Mar 5	Active Reading: Previewing	Chapter 9	Chp 9 Aids	
Wed, Mar 7	<b>LAB Session: Questions and Answers</b>	Chapter 15	Chp 15 Aids	
Fri, Mar 9	<b>LAB Session: Questions and Answers</b>			
Mon, Mar 12	Spring Break			
Wed, Mar 14	Spring Break			
Fri, Mar 16	Spring Break			
Mon, Mar 19	Active Reading: Finding Main Ideas			
Wed, Mar 21	Active Reading: Highlighting & Annotating			
Fri, Mar 23	<b>LAB Session: Text Reading</b>		<b>Text Reading</b>	Quiz 5

Mon, Mar 26	Rehearsal Strategies	Chapter 10	Chp 10 Aids	
Wed, Mar 28	Reviewing Strategies	Chapter 11	Chp 11 Aids	
Fri, Mar 30	<b>LAB Session: Study Aids/Visual Organizers</b>		<b>Visual Organizers</b>	Quiz 6
Mon, Apr 2	Research and Resources	Chapter 14	<b>Goal Follow-up #2</b>	
Wed, Apr 4	<b>LAB Session: Research and Resources</b>			
Fri, Apr 6	Preparing for Objective Tests	Chapter 12	Chp 12 Aids	
Mon, Apr 9	Preparing for Objective Tests: Levels			
Wed, Apr 11	Taking Objective Tests			
Fri, Apr 13	Preparing for Essay and Specialized Exams	Chapter 13	Chp 13 Aids	
Mon, Apr 16	Taking Essay Exams			
Wed, Apr 18	Identifying and Handling Stress	Chapter 5	Chp 5 Aids	
Fri, Apr 20	<b>LAB Session: Exams</b>		<b>Exams</b>	Quiz 7
Mon, Apr 23	Library Research Summary & Presentation		<b>Library Research</b>	
Wed, Apr 25	Library Research Summary & Presentation		<b>Library Research</b>	
Fri, Apr 27	FINAL WRAP UP!			