I. Course Description:

This course examines the effects of the social environment and cultural influences on individual behavior and the development of personality.

The James I. Perkins College of Education is committed to proactively recruiting and retaining a diverse faculty, staff, and student population. Through open dialogue, mutual respect, and shared responsibility, faculty, staff, and students will demonstrate an understanding and sensitivity to ethnicity, race, gender, exceptionalities, culture, language/dialect, age, social class, family structure, sexual orientation, religion, and spiritual values in order to enhance the quality of life in a diverse, global community.

II. Intended Learning Outcomes/Goals/Objectives (Program/Student Learning Outcomes):

All students must adhere to the SFA Way:

1. The Principle of Respect:
Lumberjacks command respect and treat others with respect. They are considerate of others and tolerant of differences. They demonstrate respect for those around them by avoiding the use of offensive or profane language. They do not threaten or harm anyone and deal peacefully and civilly with conflict.

2. The Principle of Caring:
Lumberjacks think of the needs of others and seek to improve the quality of life of those around them. They are compassionate, empathic and kind. They respond with humility to those they have helped and express gratitude freely to those who help them. Lumberjacks prepare themselves to become leaders in their communities and workplaces. They dedicate themselves to excellence in their chosen field of study and to using what they learn in the service of others.

3. The Principle of Responsibility:
Lumberjacks do what is right. They persevere in times of adversity. Through self-control and self discipline, they strive to do their best. Lumberjacks challenge each other to exceed expectations. They are active learners both inside and outside of the classroom. They are reliable; they do what they say they will do. Lumberjacks hold themselves accountable for their decisions.

4. The Principle of Unity:
Lumberjacks are loyal to their friends, family, university, state and country. Lumberjacks stand together against any adversary. They recognize that though we are very different from one another, we are united by the Lumberjack Spirit. Lumberjacks seek to understand the people and world around them. When one lumberjack fails, all fail. When one lumberjack succeeds, all succeed.

5. The Principle of Integrity:
Lumberjacks have the courage to do what is right, even when it is hard or unpopular. They respond to each situation with steadfast values that are not subject to change based on the actions of others. They seek opportunities to practice effective and ethical leadership. Lumberjacks are honest; they do not deceive, cheat or steal. Lumberjacks stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves. As lifelong
learners, lumberjacks are committed to continuously improving themselves.

**General/EEO:**

The mission of the Perkins College of Education is to prepare competent, successful, caring and enthusiastic professionals from diverse backgrounds dedicated to responsible service, leadership, social justice and continued professional and intellectual development in an interconnected global society.

In the Perkins College of Education, we value and are committed to:
- Academic excellence through critical, reflective, and creative thinking
- Life-long learning
- Collaboration and shared decision-making
- Openness to new ideas, to culturally diverse people, and to innovation and change
- Integrity, responsibility, diligence, and ethical behavior
- Service that enriches the community

The goals of this course are closely aligned to those of the College of Education (COE). As a step in the process of preparing students to make meaningful contributions in an interconnected global society, the knowledge obtained in this course will enable students to develop the requisite knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary in the field of school psychology. In addition, students enrolled in this course will use the principles and procedures learned throughout the course in an applied manner. Through the activities and objectives in course students will become prepared, competent, successful, caring and enthusiastic counseling professionals. They will continue to develop a sense of service, leadership, professional and intellectual growth. Through regular class attendance, writing projects, exams, and discussions students will gain academic excellence within the subject area with an emphasis on life-long learning and development. Students will also be given the opportunity for collaboration and be encouraged toward openness to new ideas. Ethics, integrity and service within the counseling profession and following the American Counseling Association guidelines will also be integrated into all aspects of the course. As described in this syllabus, course follows the mission, vision and core values of the college of education and Stephen F. Austin State University which is aligned with the counseling curriculum, clinical experiences, and assessments.

**Program Learning Outcomes:**

This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in this course.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Identify and discuss key theories and constructs in social psychology
2. Describe how social and cultural factors impact children and families
3. Apply theories of social psychology to issues relevant to school climate and academic success
4. Develop oral, visual, and written summaries of key theories and constructs in social psychology
5. Summarize and critique empirical research in social psychology

*This course aligns with the National Association of School Psychologist (NASP) Model 10 Domains of Practice (applicable domains in bold). Practices that permeate all aspects of service delivery:*

Domain 1: Data-Based Decision Making and Accountability School psychologists have knowledge of varied models and methods of assessment and data collection for identifying strengths and needs, developing effective services and programs, and measuring progress and outcomes.
Domain 2: Consultation and Collaboration School psychologists have knowledge of varied models and strategies of consultation, collaboration, and communication applicable to individuals, families,
groups, and systems and methods to promote effective implementation of services. Direct and Indirect Services for Children, Families, and Schools

Student-Level Services

Domain 3: Interventions and Instructional Support to Develop Academic Skills

School psychologists have knowledge of biological, cultural, and social influences on academic skills; human learning, cognitive, and developmental processes; and evidence-based curricula and instructional strategies.

Domain 4: Interventions and Mental Health Services to Develop Social and Life Skills

School psychologists have knowledge of biological, cultural, developmental, and social influences on behavior and mental health, behavioral and emotional impacts on learning and life skills, and evidence-based strategies to promote social–emotional functioning and mental health.

Systems-Level Services

Domain 5: School-Wide Practices to Promote Learning

School psychologists have knowledge of school and systems structure, organization, and theory; general and special education; technology resources; and evidence-based school practices that promote learning and mental health.

Domain 6: Preventive and Responsive Services

School psychologists have knowledge of principles and research related to resilience and risk factors in learning and mental health, services in schools and communities to support multitiered prevention, and evidence-based strategies for effective crisis response.

Domain 7: Family–School Collaboration Services

School psychologists have knowledge of principles and research related to family systems, strengths, needs, and culture; evidence-based strategies to support family influences on children’s learning and mental health; and strategies to develop collaboration between families and schools.

Foundations of School Psychological Service Delivery

Domain 8: Diversity in Development and Learning

School psychologists have knowledge of individual differences, abilities, disabilities, and other diverse student characteristics; principles and research related to diversity factors for children, families, and schools, including factors related to culture, context, and individual and role difference; and evidence-based strategies to enhance services and address potential influences related to diversity.

Domain 9: Research and Program Evaluation

School psychologists have knowledge of research design, statistics, measurement, varied data collection and analysis techniques, and program evaluation sufficient for understanding research and interpreting data in applied settings.

Domain 10: Legal, Ethical, and Professional Practice

School psychologists have knowledge of the history and foundations of school psychology; multiple service models and methods; ethical, legal, and professional standards; and other factors related to professional identity and effective practice as school psychologists.

III. Course Assignments, Activities, Instructional Strategies, use of Technology:

Students are required to:

- Participate in online discussion boards.
- Follow the course schedule in completing assigned readings
- Submit reaction papers for 2 assigned readings
- Complete a Powerpoint presentation over a selected topic
- Complete 2 exams

IV. Evaluation and Assessments (Grading):

1. Syllabus Agreement Form (Pass/Fail): As per Human Services department guidelines, students must complete and submit the attached syllabus agreement form in the Dropbox of the course D2L webpage. This form must be received by 10/20 at 11:59 PM. Questions and concerns regarding the syllabus agreement form must be brought to the attention of the instructor immediately.
2. **Discussion Posts (25 points):** The day before each class period by 11:59pm, students will submit 5 discussion questions/comments in the Brightspace discussion board. Each discussion question/comment is worth up to 5 points. Students will lead a 5-10 minute discussion using their questions/comments each class.

3. **Reaction Papers (100 points):** To illustrate how social and personality theory can be tested and modified, you will be asked to read articles that describe theory and empirical research in these fields. To facilitate engagement with course material, students are required to turn in reaction papers for at least 2 of the required article readings. You will write short (2-3 pages, double spaced) papers that summarize and give your impressions of the readings you select from the course schedule. The purpose of these papers is to provide an opportunity for students to think critically about theoretical or empirical research. The paper should incorporate a critique of something that is argued in your selection or it can suggest a novel approach (an alteration to a theory or an idea for a new study) to some problem discussed in the reading. The paper should demonstrate that you have read the selection carefully AND given the content thought incorporating your own independent analysis. More specific details are provided in Guidelines for Writing a Reaction Paper handout (located under the Getting Started Module in Brightspace).

4. **PowerPoint Research Paper (75 points):** Each student will complete a PowerPoint Presentation using Zoom. The PowerPoint presentation must be 20 slides in length. Limit slides to no more than five bullet points with key words or phrases (no more than five words in length). A minimum of eight references are required. References can include both journal articles and books. Use APA Style for your text in your slides and on the Reference page at the end of the slides. Graphics should also be used to enhance your slides.

5. **Exams (200 points).** There will be two exams in this course. Exams will be completed online using the Brightspace Quiz feature and will include fill-in-the blank and short answer style questions.

V. **Tentative Course Outline/Calendar:**
VI. Readings:


**Article reading assignments will be made available in Brightspace.**

**VII. Course Evaluations:**

Near the conclusion of each semester, students in the Perkins College of Education electronically evaluate courses taken within the PCOE. Evaluation data is used for a variety of important purposes including:

1. Course and program improvement, planning, and accreditation;
2. Instruction evaluation purposes; and
3. Making decisions on faculty tenure, promotion, pay, and retention.

As you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough, and accurate in completing the evaluation. Please know that the PCOE faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your response is critical!

In the Perkins College of Education, the course evaluation process has been simplified and is completed electronically through MySFA. Although the instructor will be able to view the names of students who complete the survey, all ratings and comments are confidential and anonymous, and will not be available to the instructor until after final grades are posted.

**VIII. Student Ethics and Other Policy Information:**

**Class Attendance and Excused Absence: Policy 6.7**

Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and, if indicated in the syllabus, submission of completed assignments are expected at all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which the student is registered. Based on university policy, failure of students to adhere to these requirements shall influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. The instructor shall maintain an accurate record of each student’s attendance and participation as well as note this information in required reports (including the first 12 day attendance report) and in determining final grades. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences. Whether absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for up to three weeks of absences during a semester or one week of a summer term, depending on the nature of the missed work. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Policy 6.1 and 6.6**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325,
468-3004 as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

Student Academic Dishonesty: Policy 4.1
Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment;
- helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- submitting an assignment as one’s own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source;
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

Penalties for Academic Dishonesty
Penalties may include, but are not limited to reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, resubmission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university.

Student Appeals
A student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students (6.3).

Withheld Grades: Policy 5.5
At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code,
policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp or call the office at 936-468-2703.

IX. Other Relevant Course Information:
The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus as necessary. You are responsible for maintaining accurate records, including any changes to the syllabus. In addition, you are responsible for all information presented during class, regardless of whether or not you attended class.