

EPSY 7426

(Distance Education section)

Theories of Learning & Implications

Spring 2013

Department of Educational
Foundations, Leadership & Technology

College of Education

Professor Paris Strom

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Tigermail, Canvas email and phone voice mail will be checked M-F starting at 10am and latest by 5pm.

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and by appointment to be planned on email at least two days in advance of date requested.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



Faculty, staff and students
strive to prepare and be professionals who are:

Competent

equipped with the knowledge, skills
and technological expertise to help
all individuals learn and develop

Committed

dedicated to the ethical practices and collaboration
that serve as the foundation of a diverse
and intellectually vibrant society

Reflective

devoted to analyzing their own past practices
in ways that fuel ongoing learning
and improve future practices

A Keystone in Building a Better Future for All



1. Course Number: EPSY 7426 —Distance Ed Format (Asynchronous)

Course Title: Theories of Learning and Implications

Credit Hours: 3 semester hours (3 lecture)

2. Term: Spring 2013

Day/Time: Note that this course is being offered in distance education format which means all the lecture and assignment materials are to be accessed on Canvas. We will also meet twice as well. Meeting one will be during week one of classes (*or before*) that you plan on Doodle Scheduler I've posted on email. Agenda: [*Course introduction, Canvas clinic*]. Any meetings, if missed, will need to be rescheduled and attended the following week.

Most of the time, assignments in the course will be conducted and submitted on a week to week basis online via Canvas. You will attend lectures and use course materials online from week to week but you will watch the material and take online assessments at a time that works within your weekly schedule and submit any and all assignments by the weekly deadlines (*stated in this syllabus*). The lectures and all other course materials are accessible 24/7.

If there are problems then we'll need to schedule and hold an appointment (*phone or on campus*) to help solve the problem but this appointment will not count toward fulfillment of the formal class meeting.

3. Office Hours & Contact Information:

Professor Strom, Ph.D., Educational Psychology – Lifespan Development

Office: 4082 (4th floor) -Haley Center-Department of EFLT

Phone 334-844-3077: Message machine is at same number. Please leave a message if you call. EMAIL RESPONSE times: Earliest email check time each morning (M-F) is around 10:00 a.m. and latest check time for those days is by 5:00 pm. Any email check time before usual check time or after the usual end-of day check time is only where I need to do so out of planning for other work obligations while also trying to respond to your questions to be helpful. So, please rely on the *usual* times listed only so if you send email or post assignments after the 5:00 pm time M-F, (*and any time on the weekends*), then please know that you most likely will hear from me not then but instead by the next business day morning on email (*on business days*).

Tigermail address: stromps@auburn.edu

My weekly office hours will be on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and by appointment to be planned on email at least 2 days before requested meeting. I'll send you email confirmation that the time proposed works. Office hours, appointments, and email/phone correspondence are put on hold while I'm away during conferences and business trips. You may email me or call me while I'm gone but I may very likely not be able to respond until my return. I'll post on my door if I'm away for a day or longer along with when I return. My

office hours begin on the 2nd week of our class and end on the last day of our last assignment due date. After this it will be by appointment only.

If I have to change my office hours for a particular day due to a required AU meeting or some other obligation or event, then I'll post on my door if I'm away that day so that you know and then also post on email and in the Canvas announcements when I will serve make-up office hours time.

If you call the campus office phone and I'm not there please leave a message and contact phone and when I can call back or if I can email you the information you need. I will return the call or email shortly thereafter accordingly. If you are there at my door, please wait a few moments as I may need to briefly use other facilities. Also, if you are onsite, please knock on my door loudly as I often leave the door shut in order to alleviate unnecessary hallway distractions/interruptions when I'm in my office working.

Office hours will be held at stated times on-campus and students are encouraged to utilize this time (or appointment times made) to meet in person or on the phone regarding their questions. Unless an appointment is necessary, all other questions or dialogue will be addressed via email (on Tigermail) and on Canvas email so please check both daily (M-F).

Date Syllabus Prepared: This syllabus was updated Fall 2012 and is being distributed for Spring 2013 for Dr. Strom's section of EPSY 7426, is posted on Canvas in the WEEK 1 MODULE, and is posted in electronic PDF copy in the EFLT Department main office.

4. Text and Class Materials: Readings for weeks 1-11 will be posted as links and linked files in Canvas in each weekly instructional module. Also, weeks 12—14 will have readings available as well but those weeks the likely source of reading may mostly be (if chosen) the loaned readings. There is no text to be purchased.

Required: Daily access to effectively functioning computer with functioning high speed internet connection either at home, work or on campus. This is a distance education course so this is vital-no exceptions.

Recommended: One pair of earphones (such as *earbuds*) would be helpful-even just the inexpensive type will do. This is just in case you need to hear a lecture or film and are in a sitting where you can't play it aloud around others (like at a campus computer for example) or at home in the late evenings. If you are in the LRC and don't have earphones by the way, the LRC has a very large number of them that you as a student can check out for use in the LRC. Be mindful of LRC hours of operation they post.

5. Course Description: This course focuses on the advanced study of learning theory and research with an emphasis to effective design, implementation, and evaluation of instruction and other interventions. Each of the theories listed in the course content will be examined in terms of their useful application across varied educational environments, with different types of learners, etc.. Of high priority will be both the understanding of the main elements of several important theories as well as how the elements and methods have application to varied learning settings from childhood through adulthood.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. define learning.
2. identify the essential features of some major theories of learning (classic and contemporary ones).
3. apply aspects of various theories of learning in one's professional setting.
4. compare and contrast various learning theories and their applications /usefulness in various settings and environments.
5. develop a personal learning theory.
6. show understanding of current research/reform efforts based on theories.

6. Distance Education Format Course Section: Course material (*all of it*) is to be accessed via Canvas files, some have assignment instructions, while other files have video lectures, etc. It is entirely the obligation of the student in this course, since it is in this format, to ensure they have proper, reliable access to a computer and Internet (at home, work or school) to access this internet based material. This will mean for example, downloading RealPlayer (free) to be able to view the lectures and downloading Adobe Acrobat Reader (free) to open and view text files and assignments posted on Blackboard. No other substitute, replacement or arrangement for Canvas is possible in terms of accessing lectures or other course material (not DVDS, VHS tapes, CDs, printed course packets, etc.). If you are at a place of work where the computer is controlled by I.T. staff, please quickly communicate to them your needs of accessing any and all files on the Canvas site and for them to download any and all software needed to open documents (*Adobe Reader*) and to view videos (*Realplayer, Quicktime and Windows Media Player*). Taking the appropriate steps to access the material online will be required. Some video files are in RealPlayer which cannot be changed to any other type of file so make sure you can play Realplayer files on your computer. I sent the link to the free download for Realplayer in an email with the "TASKS" that you all responded to. Other files for this course, with films or speeches or animations, will be in other file types so please download whatever video player software is needed (*perhaps Quicktime or Windows Media Player depending if you use a Mac or PC computer*). Much of the time, Realplayer will be used.

Please watch all the lectures and films as directed in each module's PLAN but you may do so according to times of day or on days that meet your schedule best as long as you complete each module and its connections assignment before or by the posted due date for the weekly written assignment. These dates are shown in this syllabus and posted on the main table of contents page for the course in Canvas next to each week's module. In addition, you can pause, start and stop the lectures anytime, replay them as many times as you wish, etc. You can stand or exercise while you listen or watch them, or sit at your home or school computer to view them. All of these choices help with the main goal of allowing more time for actual focused watching, listening, non-stressed note taking, more in-depth thinking and writing. The time factor is in your hands as long as components and assignments of the course are completed by the specified dates/times (*indicated in this syllabus and on Canvas for each module*). I think you will enjoy the freedom of this distance education format but be aware that with the freedom comes responsibility and expectation of going through the material in its entirety and in a timely manner. Again, please be 100%

sure to read and watch all module materials and to do so in a timely manner in order to maximize your potential for success in the course. This will be a core expectation.

7. Course Content Outline and Assignments: The schedule on the next page displays the exact time allocated on the identified course content. Exact layout of content is seen in each week's learning module that you will follow from top to bottom of the items which include readings, video(s) to watch, website(s) to visit, and written assignment(s). The module PLAN is this list of steps to follow on the module page which also includes the links to the resources you will read, visit, etc. Please follow each module's PLAN exactly.

****The Course Content Outline** *contains Module Schedule with all assignments, point worth and due dates*) and is presented on the next page in order so that the material is all neatly on one page for easier reference.

Course Content Outline (Module Schedule with all assignments, point worth and due dates):

Exact dates are shown for module start & end dates and due dates for all assignments+ pt worth.

WEEK 1: Course Orientation & Syllabus -----Wed. Jan 9—Tues. Jan 15 (11:59pm)

Intro Assignments: Meeting One (100 points) + Confirmation of Syllabus Understanding (30 points)

WEEK 2: Paradigms / Behavioral Learning Theories -----Wed. Jan 16th—Tues. Jan 22 (11:59pm)

Assignment (100 pts):

WEEK 3: Social Cognitive Learning Theory -----Wed. Jan. 23—Tues. Jan 29 (11:59pm)

Assignment (100 pts)

WEEK 4: Individual & Social Constructivism -----Wed. Jan. 30 —Tues. Feb 5 (11:59pm)

Assignment (100 pts)

WEEK 5: Situated Learning (A)-----Wed. Feb 6 —Tues. Feb 12 (11:59pm)

Assignment (100 pts)

WEEK 6: Situated Learning (B)-----Wed. Feb 13 —Tues. Feb 19 (11:59pm)

Assignment (100 pts)

WEEK 7: Conditions of Learning and Mastery Learning ----- Wed. Feb 20 —Tues. Feb 26 (11:59pm)

Assignment (100 pts)

WEEK 8: Creative Thinking and Learning-----Wed. Feb 27—Tues. March 5 (11:59pm)

Assignment (100 pts)

WEEK 9: Information Processing Theory-----Wed. March 6 —Tues. March 19 (11:59pm)

Assignment (100 pts)

WEEK 10: Neuroscience and Learning-----Wed. March 20—Tues. March 26 (11:59pm)

Assignment (100 pts)

WEEK 11: Learning with Technology-----Wed. March 27 —Tues. April 2 (11:59pm)

Assignment (100 pts)

WEEKS 12—14: Personal Exploration Modules

Assignment (100 pts per each week) WK 12—April 3---April 9 / WK 13 --- April 10—April 16 / WK 14—April 17---- April 23

*Anytime from start of week 3 to end of week 9 (no later) will be our time frame during which to hold Meeting Two either individually or in group depending on what works. Doodle.com will be used once more to plan. Meeting Two—(50 points)—due by March 19

8. Module Connections Assignment (*Weekly Written Assignment*):

The objective of this task is to create and explain your understanding of chosen main parts of each theory, applications and criticisms. These connections show understanding of course content and how you conceptualize its usefulness and meaning (*applications and criticisms*). Modules for this course will be using this same assignment and format. By using this same assignment repeatedly, it provides consistency in what to expect and practice in responding at higher levels of Bloom's Taxonomy. The expectation is for mastery and deep reflection. Please follow all instructions closely. These instructions are listed in Module One where a description of our weekly written assignment is provided for orientation purposes.

Submission of Connections Assignment: Nearly all learning modules have 5 full business days plus the weekends in which to complete the work for each module (7 full days). The due date and time (*deadline*) for the weekly Assignment is indicated in underlined date/time on page 6 in this syllabus. These are due on the ending date (Tuesday evenings) of each module by 11:59 p.m., Auburn, AL time (C.S.T.). These due dates are also shown in the tag link to each module (on Table of Contents Page). This schedule provides you as much time as possible within the last work day (*for each module*) if you need that time in order to submit it—even if it is later in the evening.

This assignment must be submitted in a Word file attachment posted to the ASSIGNMENT area (*we will go through this for orientation*). Each module assignment has its own INBOX labeled for that module. Refer to the HOW-TO INSTRUCTIONS FOLDER if you need help to do this and you may also call me if need be if you still have questions. When you send your assignment, please label/name your file first with your last name, followed by the module number spelled out and in caps. *Example: stromONE*

I will not accept work that is not sent in an attachment. I do this for record keeping and for academic honesty purposes so I can cross check where need be similarities between one student's work in the class and that of another student. So, hard copies of assignments will not be accepted. *Read-only* files will not be accepted. I will not accept files that I cannot open with Word software. If I can't open a file with your work on it, the assignment is not considered submitted.

If the assignment is sent past a deadline then it is late as I cannot reasonably be at a computer for a full day up until a late night clock deadline just to check for every student's work that they sent material to me correctly is in openable condition. It is a student's obligation to self-check that what was submitted was done so correctly, (*that it contains an attachment which can be opened, and that the attachment is in a software I can open and mark if need be*). I'll check a few times for student work on the day when work is due but if work is not received or sent correctly to me by the late night deadline then it is late. All deadlines are based on time zone in Auburn, AL (C.S.T.). Send in assignments with time to spare please.

If I did not receive your response by the deadline, then the following day as soon as I can I will post on your Canvas gradebook and Tigermail a status of **LATE- NOT YET RECEIVED** which indicates the assignment has not been received and is late (*no extension was requested by you before the deadline passed*). You will know if I received late work once I post a grade for the work after looking at it. Once work is received, (assuming it is *fit for grading*), I'll need a day or two to grade it in full.

In order to be safe, always have your assignments on at least two other drives as backup in case a computer fails you. Have it on a thumb drive and in your Tigermail (as an email attachment to yourself). Do not yank out thumb drives from a computer. Follow the proper

steps for removal.

Extensions for Connections Assignment: I will allow extensions (*occasionally*) upon a request emailed in advance (before a due date and due time passes) as long as the understanding is that the start and end time of any and all modules/assignments do not change. A student will need to catch up in order to stay on schedule but the class cannot change start or end dates for any modules or assignments. The request must also have the number of days for the extension with a specific date by which I can expect the work. By doing this, you won't get further and further behind. Instead it helps us both hold you responsible to submit the work by the extension date that you state in your email extension request. I ask that any extension requested, if possible, would be only for a few days extra and no more than a full week. Otherwise you may get yourself really behind.

Resubmissions of Connections Assignment: I do allow for a resubmission of work for possibly a better grade as long as the late points are understood to still have an effect (5 point deduction from total possible). If a student requests on email to improve and resubmit a better version of an assignment then this will then be posted on gradebook as a **REQUESTED RESUBMISSION** for that assignment. Another status may be necessary. In your gradebook for the module of concern, a status of **UNFIT RESUBMIT** will be posted if I deem the work (*once receiving it*) *unfit for grading (roughly estimated at a low C or below)*. In such cases, a resubmit may lead to a better grade, if it is improved accordingly, and this is recommended instead of staying with the initial low grade (*without resubmitting*). Once resubmitted, then points will be determined and posted. Again, late points apply. Work resubmitted under either status will often help a grade if the newer work is truly of better quality, even with/if late points are deducted. Resubmissions of either status help enable you to do quality work and allow you opportunity to perform at a higher level in the class toward the highest course grade possible instead of being disallowed second chances. Please check Tigermail and Canvas gradebook once per day Monday through Friday to facilitate this process.

I ask that resubmissions (*of either type*) be done, if at all possible, *within 1 week* after the deadline for the module of concern in order so that you will not fall behind. The latest that any submission or resubmission (of any type) can be accepted will be the last day when work is accepted for this course (May 2). *Nothing* can be submitted (*or resubmitted for any reason*) any later than May 2.

9. Course Requirements / Procedures for Grading:

Grades earned may vary for assignments on any of the tasks or exams but all must be completed (*fulfilled*) to receive course credit. Any assignments missing must be made up even if late (*regardless of excused or unexcused absence status*). Based upon meeting the above conditions, the following subsections constitute the grading framework for this course.

Definition of (A) level course grade: A final course grade of "A" demonstrates work throughout the course that has consistently gone above and beyond the course requirements and reflects a deep-level, conceptual understanding on the part of learner. This means that a student must submit ALL assignments in their entirety, on time, and with good

to great level of quality.

Course Grading Scale by %

90%– 100%= **A**
80% – 89.99% = **B**
70% – 79.99% = **C**
60% – 69.99% = **D**
-59.99% = **F**

The final grade for the course will be based on the following total possible points:

2 Meetings: during week 1 (100 pts) and between week 3—week 9 (**50 pts**)

1 Syllabus Understanding email------(30 points)

13 Module Connections Assignments - 100 pts each (**1300 pts**)

Total possible points for course grade (*tentative*) (**1480 pts**) = 100% possible

Canvas Grade Postings: If a mark in your gradebook is of concern but not understood then email me. I'll gladly communicate back with you. If you aren't sure about how well you are doing overall even after examining your gradebook, then please ask me so we can meet to go over how to interpret the gradebook at that point in time (*either via phone or in person*). The sooner you ask the sooner I will be able to communicate to you about it. Your gradebook in Canvas will have posted the numeric score in points for each assignment. Canvas will also post a record or comment about which assignment, if any, is late, how late, and how many points were deducted, as well as any simplified notes regarding the points deducted. I'll update grades on Blackboard once every week according to when this best meets my differing schedule week to week and where possible, close to after I receive your (*often within a day or two*). Times when I travel on university business will likely require up to an additional week or so for the score or comments to be posted. During the semester, scores and brief related comments for your work, when graded, will be posted on Blackboard for your password protected, private access until the end of the semester when the final letter grade for the course then goes on the AU grade post area for your final view. You can check your grades 24/7.

10. Schedule for Checking All Email and Blackboard for Assignments and Communication:

The latest official Tigermail/Canvas check and Assignment check/grading for any work submitted on any due day will be no later than 5pm, Auburn, AL time. Work submitted on any due day later than 5 pm will be checked in / graded the following business day usually first thing in the morning usually as early as around 10 a.m. Earliest official email and Canvas check time is 10am M-F and latest official check time is 5pm, M-F. Occasionally I may have to check/respond earlier or later than the official morning time to check/respond to email due to university meetings. The same is true with the official latest check time. In such cases, if I have not yet checked/responded by 5pm (*due to my being at a meeting on campus or elsewhere*), then I'll respond when I am able later that same evening if at all possible.

You may submit an assignment *ahead of time* as well. Keep in mind if any Tigermail or Canvas email or assignments are submitted on weekends, I'll check them/grade them on the

next available business day (*usually Mondays*). Holidays are not assignment due days and are also not official check/response days for Tigermail, Canvas email or check-in/grade of any work submitted or resubmitted.

11. Plan Study Time: You will have assigned readings and video lectures posted in each module and listed in steps to follow in what is called the “module plan”. Carefully follow each module’s PLAN instructions by doing all work (*readings, videos, and other tasks in exact order*). You may submit all assignments earlier than the shown deadlines if you wish. It is recommended to begin working on each assignment early on rather than late. I’ve posted them for view all at the beginning of the course in order to make this feasible and have also embedded in the schedule a safe window of work time. Looking ahead of time at each module’s *PLAN* will help you determine what needs to be done in each module before you work on your connections assignment for that module. By planning ahead, this will allow you enough time to actually go through the module materials (*readings and videos/films*) and then complete the connections assignment for that module. Please *abide by the listed start date and completion date for each module*. The completion date for each module is always the same date when the assignment will be due for that module (*by that same evening by 11:59pm*).

12. Email Communication-Vital: As far as communication goes for this course, this will be an expectation to check your regular Tiger email but also your Canvas email and Gradebook for this course. I’ll certainly respond to Tiger emails but we need to also use Canvas email just as often because it is for classes like this one (*hybrid and distance education formats*). Canvas email “messages” are 100% protected from all spam unlike regular Tiger email. I really try the utmost to communicate on both email platforms to reach a person about announcements or problems so they can take the steps necessary to correct things in a timely manner.

13. Other Class Policy Statements:

A. Understanding the Syllabus and Blackboard Course Material:

Please carefully read the syllabus and Blackboard course material so you know the policies, duties, assignments, due dates, etc.. Knowing them and fulfilling them will lead you on your path to success in this class.

B. Academic Honesty / Misconduct Code: All portions of the Auburn University student academic honesty code (Title XII) found in the Tiger Cub will apply to this university course. All academic honesty violations or alleged violations of the SGA Code of Laws will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee. The Department of EFLT recognizes university policy regarding academic misconduct. In accordance with University policy regarding academic misconduct, students may be subject to several sanctions upon violations of the Student Academic Honesty Code. Unless I state otherwise, all assignments will assess your personal (individual) knowledge of course material. ALL assignments are to be done individually only. If someone is giving considerable help to someone else on their assignments, then that’s considered cheating by our university. Auburn University utilizes the services of plagiarism detection software for professors to screen student work. I will not award a grade or points toward a grade for assignments unless and until each is submitted in the manner and format required.

C. Special Accommodations: Students who need special accommodations in class, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act, should arrange for a confidential meeting with the instructor during office hours (*or appointment*) during the first week of classes (*or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately*). The student must bring a copy of their Accommodations letter and an Instructor Verification Form to the meeting. If the student does not have these forms, they should make an appointment with the Program for Students with Disabilities, 1288 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).

D. Course Contingency: If normal class is disrupted due to mass, campus-wide illnesses, city or campus wide emergencies, or campus or a city wide crisis situation, the syllabus and other course plans and assignments may be modified (*within reason*) to allow completion of the course. If this occurs, an addendum to your syllabus and /or course assignments will replace the original materials. Again, this is put into effect *ONLY* for problems affecting the campus as a whole or city.

E. Required Auburn Email Account and Synchronization: Keep your email account active so that needed student-school communication can take place in the proper timely fashion. This is now an active rule/policy of the entire university. Also, synchronize your password /account so that you can use computers in the LRC computer labs. Ask the campus (O.I.T.) Office of Information Technology staff for immediate assistance if you need to activate or reinstate your Auburn email account. Inquire with LRC staff about synchronizing your password for access to LRC computers. Please take note of their hours of operation for the LRC which are posted right outside their entry doors. If you have any more specific questions regarding certain days or hours of operation or other LRC related questions just ask someone at their LRC help desk. As far as communication goes for this course, it will be an expectation to check your Tiger email and Canvas email.

F. Scaffolding (help) Policy: After some help has been given in a formative manner, I will sometimes need to limit the amount later on so that you rely more on your own skills and effort which hopefully become internalized. In other words, I provide limited scaffolding (*help*). In addition, the help must have limits or instead of being scaffolding which is defined as helping a student perform a task so that she/he learns to do it on their own, the opposite can happen without expressed limits. In other words, to write well, some help on mistakes or grammar are provided from time to time but not on everything or almost everything. Some areas of improvement on a task will be left unsaid so that a student can learn to apply criteria so they can effectively search, locate and correct and improve their work. Again, without this understanding between a student and instructor, the opposite may happen-total reliance of the student on the instructor. So, if the goal is student autonomy, then not all things I see as wrong with an assignment can be reasonably expressed to a student in a formative assessment manner. A few things can be communicated but not all things. Remember, a student won't begin to be self-regulatory until and unless some expectation for autonomy is reinforced by an instructor and placed back onto a student. So when someone says in an email or in class, "*Let me know if my paper looks ok or if there is anything wrong with it before I turn it in for a grade.*" Again, if I've already helped a reasonable amount in that way, then this is not an appropriate

request.

Teacher help should be given where appropriate but shouldn't be entwined with a student's grade in such a way that blame for a lower than expected assignment or course grade is presumed to be the fault of a teacher for not giving an unending amount of help on an assignment(s) before it/they are submitted for grading. Again, some help is fine but this needs to have some limits in order for true learning to take place and be evidenced. But the grade still has to be a separate process and the grading, within reason, must be done so with the understanding to the student that help is limited for developmental reasons. This expectation is the only appropriate way of moving through this class or any other in that learning will involve help but then the assessment (*grading*) will be of what you do, on your own, with what you've learned, practices, skills, thinking, etc. A student can't grow if all of their improvement rests solely on the extent of their teacher to help them with things. Instead, they need to internalize what was learned and to then apply it in a self-help, self-regulatory manner. From time to time, it may be necessary to remind someone that they may be asking for an undue (*excessive*) amount of "feedback" or help. I'll be respectful in doing this by simply pointing out that your own efforts are needed as you work on your assignment and I've played my helper role for this particular assignment to the fullest. The psychology here as it directly affects your motivation is that there are limits in the amount of help that should be provided to a student on any one assignment and these limits are so that a student expects more of her/himself in effectively producing their own work and understanding rather than being overly dependent/reliant on an instructor.

I may at times ask for a phone call so I can provide some verbal help via phone or meeting during office hours or appointment. Not all feedback on course work can be necessarily fit into an email due to the far too excessive time it may take as well as the mental limits in understanding from written feedback only versus an augment of live, oral/verbal dialogue as added feedback or as replacement to written feedback. If I request a time to talk on the phone, this is stating that I feel as the instructor that it is appropriate in that situation to talk on feedback on phone to ensure you understand it. It works out best for the both of us that way.

G. Ethics of grading and earning a grade (*sound and fair grades*): A student may ask a question on assignments (*within reason*) on what things constituted a lower grade than they perhaps expected. But where things become a problem, an ethics problem, are when sometimes a student will make a request for a higher than deserved course grade for such reasons as for example, "*I need an A*", or "*I have a scholarship that makes me need an A for the course*". Not for any reason does any student "need" an A. Such requests or comments are extremely inappropriate, unethical, and disrespectful from the perspective of our university, our college, and the education field. A basic rule and need that educators are hired to honor is to honestly grade a student based on criteria and grading systems established, and to do so as fairly as possible. So, this university asks students to please refrain from making any such comments or requests at all to instructors in person, on email, in writing, or on the phone. Such statements, (*whether intended this way or not*), are simply unethical and misguided ways to apparently appeal to an instructor's supposed sympathy, sense of forgiveness, etc.. In reality, our job (*our paid duty*) is such that, just as important as is our instruction is our grading (*judgment*) on the level of student attainment of course objectives. Please also refer to the Alabama Educator

Code of Ethics. (5)(c)5.(i) to further your understanding of ethics in teaching.

H. Add/Drop, Incompletes and Withdrawals: Grades associated with incomplete course work or a withdrawal from class will be assigned in strict conformity to University policy (see A.U. Bulletin latest edition). If you wish to drop this course, you may do so no later than by the official drop date indicated by the Registration Office. After the official university deadline for withdrawals, a withdrawal from this course will only be granted under very unusual circumstances and must be approved by the Dean of the College of Education. Please be advised that an Incomplete mark for this course may be reported first, temporarily (*in a student's GPA*), as an F which will negatively affect a GPA. This is a protocol of the registrar's office. It is not my protocol nor is it within my authority to prevent or change this protocol. According to AU Policies, Incompletes (IN) are given only under certain conditions and terms (*see Tiger Cub*).

It is a student's obligation to inform this instructor of problems right away which may prevent the completion of this course instead of waiting unnecessarily until the end of a semester to give notice that course tasks could not be met due to some personal problem. If there are problems, please tell this instructor while there is still plenty of time to hopefully solve them. This pertains in particular to a potential IN status (*Incomplete*) mark for the course. It's the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor if illness, death in the family, or of some other extenuating circumstance which prevents the completion of course assignments in order for the documentation for an IN (*Incomplete*) to be granted. This notification must be stated to the instructor by the student in writing (*or by a student's designee in writing-spouse or adult aged family member*) well before grades are due for the course, before the end of the semester. Their email and immediate phone contact info must also be in writing if they are a designee so they can be contacted by Auburn University. Always look for confirmation of my receiving any such notification from you in order to be sure I did in fact receive such important information from you. Please do not assume that I received an email of such magnitude. You must hear back from me on email to be sure. This way, my confirmation to you completes the full communication loop. Please refer to the Tiger Cub regarding policy and procedure regarding IN status for a course grade (*incompletes*). The above material is simply intended to help you see the basic gist of things, not to serve as the defining procedure for Incompletes.

I. Any changes in syllabus policy, assignments, points, etc. will be announced on campus email and in Blackboard email and in the class announcements area on Blackboard. Students are responsible for being aware of changes by checking these areas of communication.

J. VITAL: TO ACCEPT LOANED MATERIALS, PLEASE READ and ABIDE BY THE 2 CONDITIONS BELOW:

CONDITION 1: Please return by May 3rd—5pm to campus either at my office door in white box to left of office door (4082) 4th floor of Haley Center . Alternatively, during normal business hours of EFLT main office you may deliver packet of loans there as well to either Glenda Hill or Robert Royston. If you are someone who is sending yours back please have it sent (in the mail to me no later than by this date so mailing it back will not be forgotten). Thanks!!! I'll confirm with all returns when I receive them back so you will know.

CONDITION 2: Please enjoy reading and learning from these materials! But out of respect for all copyright laws, please do not disseminate or reproduce (making multiple copies), transmit, broadcast, etc. these materials (transmitting or broadcasting the images of these materials to others). They are for your personal study (reading) purposes only for this semester only. Actual legal reproduction of materials from a source for purpose of professional use (of any reproduceables, or other tools/resources from a particular copywritten source) means that the owner has a right to do so but not a person who has materials temporarily on loan to him/her. These materials are on loan directly from this instructor and in no way constitute permission to reproduce, disseminate, broadcast, transmit, share or post on line ,etc.. Taking this course in no way has provided for the monies for these materials for purposes of loan to you, nor for rent, etc.. This instructor personally owns these materials and purchased them solely for student learning through reading (at no cost to students). If you really like a certain source and wish to use materials from it in the future like reproduceables, etc., or other resources, then after the course is over the recommendation is to either purchase a copy of your own (for your own permanent professional use) or request from your employer to purchase the item(s) for your permanent and professional use. Keep in mind that if a person owns their own copy of a book then usually, one can use the resources from that book for your teaching or other professional setting. But you have to own it. It can't be loaned to you for your use in making multiple copies of things for professional use. Just wanted to make this clear so everyone understands that I, nor the university, under no circumstances, take responsibility for students who copy, reproduce, transmit, broadcast, or post online, scan or email, or use any other manner to reproduce or share/disseminate the loaned material. So, in honor of my attempts to share with you to the maximum extent (at no cost to you), please honor the above agreement. By virtue of accepting and using these materials for the semester, this constitutes your understanding and acceptance of these terms which respect copyright law. Again, thank you in advance for acting responsibly. If for some reason you wish not to use these materials for weeks 12-14 readings, then please return them as soon as possible and you will have materials (well over the amount needed) to read that I'll post in Canvas as links which will be relevant readings. They will be different from these readings though of course. Lastly, videos from "Go2knowledge" website cannot be disseminated. Thanks for your attention to this letter—Strom

Thanks for reading this syllabus and becoming informed about the course so you can succeed!! I look forward to you being in this course, your assignments, and to talking with you. -----End of Syllabus for EPSY 7426 – Paris Strom © SPRING 2013 -----