

CAREERS IN PSYCHOLOGY
PSYCHOLOGY 200-002
FALL 2009

Professor: Danice Brown, Ph.D
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Class Location: Alumni Hall 0401
Class Days: Tuesday & Thursday
Time: 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Office Hours: Wednesday 11:00am – 1:00pm, and by appointment

Graduate Assistant: David Bedwell
Office: Alumni Hall 0319
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Course Objectives:

This course is designed to provide students with information and skills that will help them select and pursue a career in Psychology by incorporating such activities as lectures, assignments, and small group exercises.

Course Goals:

At the end of this semester, I hope that you are able to:

- Understand the career decision making process
- Show an awareness of your interests, skills, and values and how they relate to career choice
- Locate and utilize resources for career information and job searching
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of career development theories
- Understand the impact culture on career development
- Make an informed decision regarding Psychology's fit as a major
- Identify the various career options for Psychology students
- Know more about necessary experiences that will best prepare you for your chosen field
- Know more about the SIUE Psychology curriculum
- Demonstrate increased knowledge about the subfields of psychology
- Understand the necessary steps to prepare for graduate school in Psychology
- Write a resume or vita to market your skills and experiences

Required Texts/Readings:

- Kuther, T.L. & Morgan, R.D. (2004). *Careers in Psychology: Opportunities in a Changing World*. Toronto: Thomson-Wadsworth.
- Other readings as assigned

Grades:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| • Myers/Briggs Reflection Paper = 10 | 250 points total to be earned |
| • Group Scavenger Hunt = 30 | A = 224 - 250 |
| • Cover Letter = 15 | B = 199 - 223 |
| • Resume/Vita = 15 | C = 174 - 198 |
| • Career Fair Attendance & Paper = 20* | D = 149 - 173 |
| • APA Style Assignment = 10 | F = 0 - 148 |
| • Plagiarism Assignment = 10 | |
| • Group Paper on Specific Area = 25 | |
| • Group Presentation on Specific Area = 15 | |
| • Midterm Exam = 50 | |
| • Final Exam = 50 | |
| • Extra credit opportunities will be available and will be announced in class | |

***Please note: The Career Fair will be held on Wednesday, 10/07/09 from 10am-2pm in Morris University Center. If you are unable to attend, please speak with me about an alternate assignment before the day of the fair. You can find more information about the Career Fair at http://www.siue.edu/careerdevelopmentcenter/career_fairs.shtml.**

Classroom Expectations & Policies

Classroom expectations:

- All assignments, handouts, class outlines, additional readings, and class announcements will be posted on Blackboard. Please check this system regularly.
- Complete assigned reading as scheduled. The majority of reading in this course will come from the texts; however, I may occasionally provide you with supplemental reading material.
- I expect participation in class activities and discussions. I welcome appropriate comments and questions. However, disrespect for others opinions and ideas will not be tolerated.
- **If you are having difficulty with any aspects of the course, see me as soon as possible. Students can come to office hours, set up an appointment, or email me.**
- All assignments must be typed, double-spaced and stapled (not paper-clipped). I will automatically deduct 5 points from papers that are not STAPLED. Assignments must be handed in—e-mail copies will not be accepted unless previously arranged with me.
- If you miss class you are still responsible for the material covered that day in class, assignments given out that day, and for any assignments due that day. Assignments not turned in on the due date will be considered late and points will be deducted. “*I wasn’t here that day*” is NOT an acceptable excuse for turning in a late assignment or not getting a new assignment. When you miss class it is up to you to get the notes and handouts from another student.
- You are expected to conduct yourself in an appropriate manner, respecting the rights of your instructor and fellow students. Disruptions are not conducive to the learning process of your fellow classmates, and impede my ability to cover the material in an efficient manner.

Attendance/Tardiness: While attendance will not be taken, I expect you to attend this class regularly and to be on time.

Exams: You must take both comprehensive exams at the scheduled time. You are NOT allowed to take an exam earlier. **Make-up evaluations will be considered ONLY if the student contacts the professor PRIOR to the time of the exam. ALL make-up evaluations will be essay format. Documentation must be provided BEFORE you are allowed to take the make-up exam.** Should you have to miss the final exam for an emergency reason, you may be able to take an Incomplete (with appropriate documentation) and finish the exam the subsequent semester.

Late Assignments: They will generally not be considered unless there is a major, documented illness or emergency, in which case they may be handled on a case by case basis. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date! An assignment not turned in at the start of class is considered late and results in the loss of a letter grade for the assignment. One letter grade will be lost for each subsequent day the assignment is late.

Students with Special Needs: If you have special physical or educational needs, I am ready to accommodate you. You will need to do the following: A. Speak with me during the first week of class. B. Provide documentation of your need. C. Work with the Office of the Coordinator of Disability Support Services, Student Success Center, Room 1270.

According to SIUE safety and procedures policies, students with disabilities have the option of developing a written plan for evacuation in the unlikely event of an emergency that requires evacuation. If any student with a disability would like to develop a written evacuation plan for this class, please contact the instructor.

Psychology Department Policy on Incomplete Grades, Pass-No Credit Option, and Withdrawal: It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw from a course through the Enrollment Office by the dates set by the university if the student is not intending to complete the course. Students who do not withdraw and have not completed the course will receive an Unauthorized Withdrawal (UW). Only under special circumstances may a faculty member agree to give the student an Incomplete (INC) grade in order to allow the student to complete the remaining work for the course no later than the end of the following semester. An INC is never automatic but must be approved by the instructor. If an instructor agrees to give a student an INC grade, the instructor and student will fill out a form (Memorandum of Incomplete Grade) indicating why an INC is being given. One copy of the completed form will be given to the student, one copy will be given to the instructor, and one copy will be kept by the Department of Psychology secretary. If the work is not completed by the specified time, the grade will be changed from INC to F.

Psychology Department Policy on Plagiarism: Plagiarism includes either presenting someone else's words without quotation marks (even if you cite the source) or presenting someone else's ideas without citing that source. If you plagiarize, your instructor cannot evaluate your understanding of the topic. When paraphrasing from another source, at the very least the student should change the wording, sentence syntax, and order of ideas presented in the paper. Ideally, the student will integrate ideas from multiple sources while providing critical commentary on the topic in a way that clearly identifies whether words and ideas are those of the student or are from another source. University policy states that "Normally a student who plagiarizes shall receive a grade of 'F' in the course in which the act occurs. The offense shall also be reported to the Provost." (<http://www.siu.edu/POLICIES/1i6.html>). The University policy discusses additional academic sanctions including suspension and expulsion from the University. To insure that you understand how to avoid plagiarism, we encourage you to review the information on plagiarism provided on the Department of Psychology web page at <http://www.siu.edu/PSYCHOLOGY/plagiarism.htm>.

Class Schedule

*Schedule subject to change at the discretion of the professor

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Readings</i>	<i>Assignment Due</i>
1	8/25	Introduction; Syllabus Review	
	8/27	Hallmarks of a Great Student; Career Myths; Making Career Decisions	
2	9/1	Interests, Holland's Theory	Chapter 1
	9/3	Meyers-Briggs Type Indicator	
3	9/8	Skills and Values; Group Contracts	Chapter 12
	9/10	Finding a Job/Networking	
4	9/15	Resumes and Cover Letters	
	9/17	Resumes and Cover Letters	Myers/Briggs Reflection Paper
5	9/22	Career Development Center	Scavenger Hunt
	9/24	Interviewing	
6	9/29	Intro to Psych Dept. Curriculum	
	10/1	Culture and Career	
7	10/6	Psychology as a Major	Cover letter, Resume/CV *Career Fair October 7th, 10am-2pm, MUC
	10/8	Psych Student Panel—seniors, Psi Chi, Psych Club APA style and Ethics	
8	10/13	APA style and Ethics	
	10/15	Group Work Day	Career Fair Paper
9	10/20	Field Study, Research assistant	
	10/22	MIDTERM EXAM	
10	10/27	Preparing for Graduate School	Chapters 2 & 13
	10/29	Preparing for Graduate School	
11	11/3	Graduate Application Process	Plagiarism Assignment
	11/5	Graduate Student Panel	
12	11/10	Clinical and Counseling Psychology	Chapter 3
	11/12	School Psychology	Chapter 4
13	11/17	Developmental Psychology	Chapter 11
	11/19	Social/Consumer Psychology	Chapter 10
14	11/24	Thanksgiving Break	
	11/26	Thanksgiving Break	
15	12/1	Health and Sports Psychology	Chapter 6
	12/3	Biopsychology and Neuropsychology	Chapter 7
16	12/8	Legal and Forensic Psychology	Chapter 5
	12/10	Industrial/Organizational (I/O) Psychology, Human Factors Psychology, Cognitive, & Experimental Psychology	Chapters 8 & 9
	12/15	FINAL EXAM	2:00pm – 3:40 am

Myers-Briggs Reflection Paper

Due: September 17, 2009

Total Points: 10

Directions: After completing the Myers-Briggs questionnaire, you will prepare a two-page reflection paper, responding to the following:

1. At the beginning of the paper, list your four letter type and describe what it means in your own words.
2. Is this how you see yourself? If not, how do you see yourself differently (Provide specific examples)? Which code would you give yourself then?
3. How might you use this information as a college student?
4. How might this information influence you in a career and/or career choice?

All assignments must be typed (double-spaced) and stapled. Assignments will be graded based on how thoroughly, and thoughtfully, you answer the questions. Be very careful not to plagiarize- see your syllabus for the department's policy on plagiarism.

The following form will be used for grading the assignment. It is suggested that you use this as a guide as you prepare your paper.

Grading:

____ Structure: Typed, double-spaced, stapled, 12point/Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins

____ Length: Two pages

____ Content:

1. MB type/ description in own words.
2. Is this how you see yourself? If not, how do you see yourself differently (Provide specific examples)? Which code would you give yourself then?
3. How might you use this information as a college student?
4. How might this information influence you in a career and/or career choice?

____ Writing Style: Spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure.

____ Thoroughness

____ Thoughtfulness

Career Fair Assignment

DUE: October 15, 2009

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 20

1. Directions: Attend the career fair and talk with at least three employers about potential job opportunities. Prepare a 1-2 page paper. Provide the following information:
 - a. The Companies names
 - b. Positions the companies are hiring for
 - c. What was it like for you to talk with each employer? What is your level of interest in each company based on your conversation?
 - d. Observe other students at the fair: indicate at least one positive behavior you noticed and indicate at least one negative behavior you noticed
2. Attach “proof” of interaction (e.g., business card)
3. All assignments must be typed (double-spaced) and stapled. Assignments will be graded based on how thoroughly, and thoughtfully, you answer the questions. Be very careful not to plagiarize- see your syllabus for the department’s policy on plagiarism.
4. The following form will be used for grading the assignment. It is suggested that you use this as a guide as you prepare your paper.

Grading:

___ Structure: Typed, double-spaced, stapled, 12point/Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins

___ Length: 1-2 pages

___ Content:

1. The Companies names
2. Positions the companies are hiring for
3. What was it like for you to talk with each employer? What is your level of interest in each company based on your conversation?
4. Observe other students at the fair: indicate at least one positive behavior you noticed and indicate at least one negative behavior you noticed

___ Writing Style: Spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure.

Subfields of Psychology Group Paper

Due: November 11, 2009

Possible Total Points: 25

1. Directions: You will be assigned to group based on your expressed interest in a certain subfield of psychology. As a group you will prepare a 4-8 page paper.

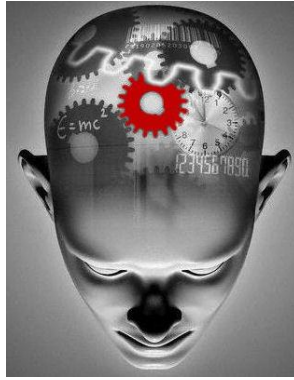
2. Task:
 - a. Construct a group contract (make sure that all members and the instructor sign the agreed upon contract)
 - b. Turn in one group paper containing the following:
 - i. Title page with all group members names, Psychology 200-001, and the date.
 - ii. Description of the subfield of Psychology—"What do they do"
 1. Types of activities of individuals in this subfield (e.g. type of research or practice)
 2. A description of one job at each level of education (bachelors, masters, doctoral) = three job descriptions
 3. Describe any specific APA organizations or special interest groups
 - c. Must use at least 2 resources outside of the class textbook (e.g. internet, career books, etc.)—must hand in a reference list of outside sources including page numbers if using books.
 - d. In addition, each of you will turn in an evaluation sheet of each group member which will be considered when assigning grades for this paper.

3. All assignments must be typed (double-spaced) and stapled. Assignments will be graded based on how thoroughly, and thoughtfully, you answer the questions. Be very careful not to plagiarize- see your syllabus for the department's policy on plagiarism.

4. The following form will be used for grading the assignment. It is suggested that you use this as a guide as you prepare your paper.
 - a. Grading:
 - i. ____ Structure: Typed, double-spaced, stapled, 12point/Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins
 - ii. ____ APA format
 - iii. ____ Length: 4-8 pages
 - iv. ____ Content:
 1. Title page
 2. Description of subfield of Psychology
 3. Reference list
 - v. ____ Writing Style: Spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure.
 - vi. ____ Thoroughness

Subfields of Psychology Group Presentation:

The Psychology Campaign



Imagine that in the great tradition of American capitalism, psychology programs are turning to the open market to attract people to field. You work for a hip, young advertising agency that has just acquired a huge psychology marketing account. Your team has been assigned a specific subfield of psychology that will become your product. You will be responsible for presenting an ad campaign to the class on your specified subfield of psychology. Your CEO (me) expects the ads to be fun, creative, and memorable, as you'll be targeting the young adult market. You only have the equivalent of a 5-10 minute spot on television or a single page in a magazine. As a group, decide how you are going to tell your audience the following required information (found in your textbook; you may also use any outside resources or the Internet*):

- *What* specific subfield of psychology you are presenting
 - *What* kinds of jobs you can get in this subfield of psychology
- *How* you can get involved in a career in this subfield of psychology
- *Why* your audience **should** consider a career in this subfield of psychology

Note: This activity should be approached with care. You are helping yourselves and your classmates to remember the various subfields of psychology. You're much more likely to remember them on test if they are paired with a familiar stimulus – like the advertising that surrounds us every day.

Every member of the group must be involved (i.e. speak) during the presentation and in the preparation. Also remember expectations about respectful speech and behavior. Use humor generously, but appropriately. Enjoy!

The following form will be used for grading the assignment. It is suggested that you use this as a guide as you prepare your paper:

- i. _____ Creativity: Fun, creative, gets audience's attention, sell product
- ii. _____ Time Length
 - a. 5-10 minutes, lose a ½ point for each minute over
- iii. _____ Relevant information
 - a. _____ Subfield
 - b. _____ Kinds of jobs
 - c. _____ How to get involved in this subfield
 - d. _____ Why you should chose this subfield
- iv. _____ References in APA format