

Careers in Psychology

PSYC 200-002

Spring 2012

Professor: Stacey Adams, MS
Office: Alumni Hall Room 0311
Phone: 650-2202 (psych dept)
Email: sadams@siue.edu
(the best way to reach me)

Class Location: Founders Hall 0116
Class Time: Mon, Wed, Fridays
9-9:50 am
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays
9:50-10:50 or by appt

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.

Required Texts/Readings:

- Kuther, T.L. & Morgan, R.D. (2009). *Careers in Psychology: Opportunities in a Changing World (3rd Ed.)*. Toronto: Thomson-Wadsworth.
- Other readings as assigned

Course Goals:

At the completion of this course you should be 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
- 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

Expectations

To ensure the best experience for all class members students are expected to:

- Come to class prepared and ready to participate. Classes are much more interesting when students are able to draw on their own experiences to enrich the

material being covered by the professor and when all readings are completed prior to entering class.

- Come to class. If you are hoping to do well in this, or any, course, regular attendance and active participation will always be the first step. The attendance policy is outlined below.
- Come to class on time and with as little amount of disruption as possible. Please keep all devices not being used for note-taking out of sight and turned down or off.
- Be courteous and respectful of fellow students' time and comments. This refers to the statement above, in regards to limiting class disruptions, as well as appreciating other students' examples or questions. The classroom should be a comfortable and safe environment that promotes class discussion.
- Be responsible for your own learning. As college students you are entering adulthood, therefore keeping records of your own grades, being aware of the class assignments, and being proactive if you are falling behind (contacting the professor to clarify confusing concepts prior to the exam, for example) is up to you. Please print and read the syllabus! Before asking the professor a question regarding due dates or assignments make sure it is not already on the syllabus.
- Turn assignments in on time. Ten points will be reduced each day an assignment is late. If an assignment is turned in to my mailbox (located in the Psychology Department Office at AH 0118) the student should have an employee in the office sign the assignment with the date and time.

To ensure the best experience for all class members students can expect the professor to:

- Be available to students to clarify or explain concepts further. See the office hours outlined above. Please do not email assignments, however emailed questions or concerns are welcome.
- Provide an enriching environment that stimulates critical thinking and thoughtful discussion.
- Return graded work in a timely manner and to be available to clarify grading policies if needed.

Grades

- Myers/Briggs Reflection Paper = 10
- Group Scavenger Hunt = 30
- Cover Letter = 15
- Resume/Vita = 15
- Career Fair Attendance & Paper = 20*
- APA Style Assignment = 10
- Plagiarism Assignment = 10
- Group Paper on Specific Area = 25
- Group Presentation (Psychology Campaign) = 15
- Midterm Exam = 50
- Final Exam = 50

Points

250 points total to be earned
A = 224 - 250
B = 199 - 223
C = 174 - 198
D = 149 - 173
F = 0 - 148

- ❖ The Career Services will be offering an Education Career Fair on Tuesday Feb 28th from 3-6pm and an **Arts, Science, and Business Career Fair on February 29th from 10am to 2pm** in the Meridian Ballroom at the Morris University Center. If you are unable to attend the Career Fair please see me for an alternative assignment. More information can be found at www.suie.edu/careerdevelopmentcenter/career_fairs.shtml

Attendance Policy

- Although attendance at class lecture sessions is not a course requirement regular class attendance is expected. Regardless of lecture attendance, students are responsible for all material covered during each class session. As exams will cover material from both class lecture and the assigned readings, regular class attendance is strongly encouraged.
- **Class attendance on exam days is a specific course requirement.** Make-up exams will only be permitted for “excused absences” that are accompanied by proper documentation submitted to the professor. **Any makeup exam given will also be in essay format.**
- **Please be aware that this professor will not drop a student from this course for non-attendance. It is completely your responsibility to adhere to all relevant university guidelines related to officially withdrawing from this course.**

Extra Credit Opportunities

- In order to reward class attendance, throughout the semester there will be several random attendance checks that will take place during the first 3 minutes of class. Each student present during these random checks will earn 2 extra credit points. In order to earn such points, students must arrive to class on time and remain in class for the entire period (as leaving early on such days will result in the loss of the 2 bonus points). Attendance taken during the first week of class will not be considered for extra credit.

Blackboard

- Please refer to Blackboard frequently as the class lectures, study guides, and any additional materials (guide for good research papers or changes to the schedule, for example) will be posted on this resource throughout the semester.

Additional Information

Statement on Disabilities

Students with documented disabilities should notify the instructor regarding any needed accommodations at the beginning of the course. To request accommodations please contact the Office of Disability Support Services, Rendleman Hall, Room 1218 (618-650-3726).

Department of Psychology Policy on Withdrawal and Incomplete Grades

All withdrawals must be completed by the end of the 13th week of classes during fall and spring, and by the end of the 6th week of an 8-week summer term. When students discontinue attending class and do not withdraw from a course they may receive the grade of UW (Unauthorized Withdrawal). The grade of UW will only be given when a student's grade based on the course requirements is an F. The grade of UW is calculated as an F in a student's grade average. The granting of a grade of I (Incomplete) is not automatic and is available only in cases when a student has completed most of the work required for a class but is prevented by a medical or similar emergency from completing a small portion of the work not later than the end of the following semester. An I must be approved by the instructor with appropriate documentation provided by the student. If an instructor agrees to give a student an I, the instructor will fill out a Memorandum of Incomplete Grade to be kept with the student's records. If the work is not completed by the time specified on the Memorandum, the student's grade will be changed from I to F.

Statement 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.

Plagiarism is one type of academic misconduct described in SIUE's Student Academic Code (<http://www.siu.edu/policies/3c2.shtml>). 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.shtml>). 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/education/psychology/plagiarism.shtml>.

The Psychology Department's Policy on Course Evaluations

Students will not be eligible to take the final exam in this course unless they first complete a course evaluation. The procedure for completing the confidential, anonymous and brief course evaluation online will be described toward the end of the semester. The evaluation allows students to print a proof-of-completion page (after responses are electronically submitted) and this page should be presented to your professor before the final exam.

Tentative Course Schedule

***this schedule is subject to change**

Date	Topic	Required Reading
1/9	Course introduction & syllabus review	
1/11 1/13	Introduction to Career Development Hallmarks of a Great Student	Chapter 1
1/16	No Class	
1/18	Hallmarks of a Great Student	
1/20 1/23	Career Myths Career Myths	
1/25	Making Career Decisions	
1/27	Interests	
1/30	Holland's Theory	
2/1 2/3	Meyers Briggs Meyers Briggs	
2/6 2/8	Skills and Values Skills and Values	
2/10	Group Contracts	Meyers Briggs Reflection Paper Due
2/13 2/15	Finding a Job Finding a Job	Chapter 2
2/17 2/20 2/22 2/24	Networking Career Development Center Resumes and Cover Letters Resumes and Cover Letters	Scavenger Hunt
2/27	Resumes, Cover Letters and Interviewing	Cover Letter/Resume/CV
2/29	Interviewing	Career Fair 10-2
3/2	Midterm Exam	
3/5 3/7 3/9	Spring Break-No Classes	
3/12 3/14 3/16	Psychology as a Major Psychology as a Major Psychology as a Major	
3/19	APA style	
3/21	Ethics	
3/23	Field Study and Research Assistantships	APA Assignment Due
3/26 3/28 3/30	Prepping for Graduate School Prepping for Graduate School Prepping for Graduate School	Chapter 14 Plagiarism Assignment Due

4/2	Graduate School Process	
4/4	Graduate School Process	
4/6 4/9	Clinical and Counseling Psychology Clinical and Counseling Psychology	Chapter 3-Group Papers Due Group Presentations
4/11 4/13	School Psychology School Psychology	Chapter 4 Group Presentations
4/16 4/18	Developmental Psychology Developmental Psychology	Chapter 12 Group Presentations
4/20	Social Psychology	Chapter 16 Groups
4/23	Health and Sports Psychology	Chapter 6 and 7 Groups
4/25	Biopsychology and Neuropsychology	Chapter 8 Groups
4/27	Industrial/Organizational and Legal/Forensics	Chapters 5, 9, 10 Groups
Wed 5/2 from 8:00- 9:40am	Final Exam	Career Fair Paper Due

Myers-Briggs Reflection Paper

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

Cover Letter and Resume/CV Assignment

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 30

1. Directions: You must prepare a cover letter and resume (or curriculum vita). You may prepare these materials as if you are applying for a job that you have been or are currently interested in applying for.
2. Your cover letter must contain the major components (heading, introduction, body, & closing). You will be graded on the clarity of strength of the sections.
3. Your resume or curriculum vita **must** have at least the following areas:
 - a. Contact information
 - b. Education
 - c. Experience
 - d. Memberships
4. You may include other areas such as:
 - a. Skills
 - b. Honors & awards
 - c. Presentations and publications
 - d. Volunteer experience
5. In your cover letter please specify if you have a resume or curriculum vita
6. You will also be graded on writing style: Spelling, grammar, punctuation, structure.

Career Fair Assignment

TOTAL POINTS: 20

7. Directions: Attend **one** of the career fairs 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
8. Attach “proof” of interaction (e.g., business card)
9. 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.
10. 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

Total Points: 25

1. Directions: You will be assigned to a 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.
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

The Psychology Campaign

Total Points: 15



Imagine that in the great tradition of American capitalism, psychology programs are turning to the open market to attract people to the 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!

***Please remember that all outside sources and information gathered from the internet must be cited and placed on the reference list.**

Psychology Campaign Grading Rubric

- ✓ Creativity: 3 points
 - Your ad should be fun and creative. It should get the audience's attention and really sell your psychology ad
 - Examples: Catchy commercials, infomercials, music videos, colorful magazine ads
- ✓ Relevant Information: 10 points
 - Subfield: 1 point
 - Is it clear which subfield you are describing (is the name of the subfield in the ad)
 - Kinds of Jobs: 3 points
 - Have you clearly identified 1 or more interesting jobs that someone can get with a back ground in this subfield
 - How you get involved in careers in this subfield: 3 points
 - Is it necessary to have an advanced degree to do work focused in this field
 - Should you get other kinds of experiences in order to get involved in this field (e.g. specialized training in business, art)
 - Why should someone choose this subfield: 2 points
 - This is your final chance to really "sell" this as the best subfield of psychology
 - What is exciting about this subfield (e.g. activities, salary, etc.)
- ✓ References: 2 points
 - You must submit a list of references in APA format
- ✓ **Time length:**
 - **You only have a 5-10 minute spot**
 - **Should you go over 10 minutes you will lose half a point for each minute over**

