

CAPSTONE IN PSYCHOLOGY
PSYCHOLOGY 494-003
SPRING 2010

Professor: Danice Brown, Ph.D
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Class Location: Alumni Hall 0401
Class Days: Tuesday & Thursday
Time: 11:00am – 12:15pm
Office Hours: Wednesday 11:00am – 1:00pm, and by appointment

Course Description:

This course is designed to integrate the material you have learned in previous courses along with material presented in this course. The material will focus on the influence of cultural factors (e.g. ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and SES) on individual differences in human development and behavior.

The beginning of this course will be focused on readings and class discussions related to the topic of multiculturalism in the field of psychology. The purpose of covering this material is not only to expose you to previously unfamiliar concepts, but also to help you generate ideas for your own research projects, and to limited extent provide examples of how other researchers have addressed these issues. With your group (and under the instructor's guidance), you will design and run an original, culturally competent, study related to multicultural psychology. You will present your study in two ways: an APA-style paper and a poster to be presented at a mini-conference held in the SIUE Psychology department.

Course Objectives:

From participation in this class, students will:

- Become familiar with multiculturalism and its place in the field of psychology.
- Critically evaluate research addressing issues related to diverse populations.
- Work with classmates to design and execute an empirical study related to multicultural psychology.
- Write an APA-style paper based upon the empirical study.
- Work with classmates to prepare a poster based upon the empirical study and orally discuss it during a mini-conference in the SIUE Psychology department.

Required Texts/Readings:

- Mio, S.J., Barker, L.A., Tumabing, J. (2008). *Multicultural Psychology: Understanding Our Diverse Communities*. New York: McGraw-Hill Companies Inc.
- American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th Ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Additional readings placed on Blackboard

Course Grades

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group Contract (group) = 25• Research proposal/IRB (group) = 25• Midterm Exam = 100• Final Exam = 100• Poster Presentation (group) = 50• APA style paper (individual) = 100• Peer Evaluation (individual) = 5• Class Participation (group, discussion) = 25• Please note that the APA style paper, exams, and class participation grades will be individually assigned. For the group contract, research proposal/IRB, and the poster presentation, the same grade will be assigned to all members of a group unless in the instructor's judgment there was a compelling reason to grade a | <p>430 points total to be earned</p> <p>A = 385 - 430</p> <p>B = 342 - 384</p> <p>C = 298 - 341</p> <p>D = 255 - 297</p> <p>F = 0 - 254</p> |
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group member differently after reviewing peer evaluations. The groups in which students will work will be assigned by the instructor early in the semester.

Assignments:

- **Group Contract:** Groups should refer to the article by Page and Donelan, “Team-building tools for students” (2003) with particular emphasis on the ‘creating a psychological contract’ section. You are to create a group contract to which all members agree. In this contract, among other things, you should establish group norms, values, rules, and roles (as much as you may know roles this early). Meetings (frequency, attendance policy, etc.), accountability (how will you hold each other accountable; when will you involve the professor), and peer evaluation strategies (what will constitute each grade for a peer) are required portions. The completed product should be 1- 3 pages, signed by all members. It will be graded on organization, thoroughness, reasonableness, and its ability to facilitate the group project. Total possible points are 25 for each group member. For a helpful website, see: <http://cob.jmu.edu/flahertb/merlot/groupcontract.htm>.
- **Research proposal:** You will complete a proposal that describes what you intend to study for your senior assignment project. This proposal needs to be complete enough to obtain IRB approval, which means you need to know what your IV(s) and DV(s) are, who your participants will be, what you expect to find, why you are doing the study, and if there are any potential risks involved for the participants. More details will be provided in a handout.
- **Poster presentation:** As part of your senior assignment, you will prepare a poster to present to the faculty about your project. You will also orally present that poster. You will receive a class grade for your poster as a group. The grade will be based only on the content and visual presentation of the poster-not your interaction with the faculty.
- **APA Style paper:** At the end of the semester, you will turn in a full APA formatted research paper documenting your project and its results. You will receive an individual grade on this paper-all writing must be your own (no exception). There will be some similarities in content (e.g., methods, results), but all writing must be your own. Please try not to share your writing on the final paper with your classmates to ensure that all class members learn all of the material. Plagiarism of each other will result in an automatic 0 on this assignment which could jeopardize your grade in this course. It could also result in further disciplinary action (please see the department's policy on plagiarism).
- **Peer Evaluation:** You will be required to evaluate each of your group members on their contribution to the overall project. These evaluations will be taken into consideration when assigning the class participation grade.

Course Expectations:

- **Blackboard:** All additional readings and class announcements will be posted on Blackboard. Please check this system regularly.
- **Attendance and Participation:** **Students are required to attend class regularly and to be on time.** Excessive absences will be accounted for in your class participation grade. Participation in class activities and discussions is strongly encouraged. Appropriate comments and questions are welcomed. However, **disrespect for others opinions and ideas will not be tolerated.**
- **Assignments:** All assignments must be in APA format. Late Assignments 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.
- **Exams:** You must take both comprehensive exams at the scheduled time. You are NOT allowed to take any of the exams 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 vary in content or format from the scheduled exam.** Proof of the excuse will be required BEFORE taking the essay make-up.
- **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.**
- 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.

- **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. **You will need the following information to complete the course evaluation:** Your course number is **Psyc 494**. Your section number is **003**. The name of your course is **Capstone in Psychology**. Your professor's last name is **Brown**.

Department Policies

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.siue.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.siue.edu/PSYCHOLOGY/plagiarism.htm>.

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, Rendleman Hall Room 1218.

Department of Psychology SRA Policy: All students at SIUE are required to do a Senior Assignment in order to graduate. This is the class in which you will work on this project. In order to pass the Senior Assignment requirement, you must 1) pass your Capstone course with a grade of C or better 2) present a poster based on the project you completed in the Capstone class at the Department of Psychology's Senior Assignment Poster Session, and 3) have your poster deemed acceptable by the faculty (i.e., a mean rating of 4 or above on the faculty evaluation form). In the event that you do not fulfill all 3 requirements in a given semester, you will need to retake the Capstone course and complete all three requirements in a subsequent semester. For example, if you receive below a C in the Capstone course, even if your poster presentation is deemed acceptable by the faculty, you will fail to complete the senior assignment requirement and must retake Capstone in its entirety with a new project. If you receive a C or better in the Capstone course, but your poster presentation is deemed unacceptable by the faculty, this in most circumstances will result in having to retake Capstone in its entirety, unless the Capstone professor presents evidence to the contrary. In order to help you with this endeavor, you have several resources: your Capstone professor, the Senior Assignment Coordinator (Dr. Brown), and two Senior Assignment Graduate Assistants (Adam Voyles and Bryan Cummiskey).

This semester's Senior Assignment Poster Session will take place on Thursday, **April 22, 2010** from 3:30 – 4:45, with a pinning ceremony to follow from 4:45 to 5:15) in the basement of Alumni Hall in the Research Hallway (back hallway by the Resource Center). **Your attendance at this event is mandatory in order to pass Senior Assignment – please plan your schedule accordingly!** We will have a mandatory in-class meeting with the SRA graduate assistants during the 2nd week of class where specific procedures relating to SRA will be discussed. Please make every attempt to be in class on that day! Should you be absent, you **MUST** contact the SRA graduate assistants as soon as possible for an individual appointment with them to hear this information. The SRA GAs' office is AH 0310 and their office hours for this semester will be posted shortly after the first day of class. You can stop by during their office hours or e-mail them at psychsra@yahoo.com for an appointment. You can also reach Dr. Brown, the Senior Assignment Coordinator, at danicbr@siue.edu or during her office hours on Wednesday, 11:00am – 1:00pm.

Finally, the SRA GAs will need to be e-mailed by **ONE** member of your group by 3rd week of March with the following information: your Capstone professor's name, the title of your poster, and the names of all other members of your group.

Class Schedule

*Schedule subject to change at the discretion of the professor

Wk	Date	Topic	Readings	Assignment Due
1	1/12	Syllabus Review/ What is multicultural psychology?	Mio et al.: Ch.1	
	1/14	History of Multiculturalism in psychology Diversification of Psychology	Mio et al.: Ch.1 Sue et al. (1999) Suggested: Sue (2009)	
2	1/19	Multicultural issues in research & testing Types of Multicultural research	Mio et al.: Ch. 2 MC guidelines: Research	
	1/21	Differences in world view	Mio et al.: Ch. 3	
3	1/26	Differences in worldview	Spencer & Markstrom-Adams (1990) Garnets (2002) Suggested: Mio et al. 7	
	1/28	Differences in worldview	Reid (2002) Thomas (1998)	
4	2/2	Stereotyping, Prejudice, Discrimination, Oppression	Mio et al: Ch. 6 McIntosh (1988) Suggested :Croteau et al. (2002)	
	2/4	Multicultural Competence & Social Justice	Ming Liu et al (2004) Villalpando (2002) Suggested : Moi et al. 10	
5	2/9	Finish discussion of readings	Group assignments	
	2/11	MIDTERM EXAM/ Group time		
6	2/16	Group Contracts/ Group Time	Page & Donelan (2003)	Discuss project ideas
	2/18	Research proposals and IRB application		Group Contract
7	2/23	Group meetings with professor	Group time—proposal/IRB	
	2/25	Group meetings with professor	Group time—proposal/IRB	
8	3/2	Introduction and Method sections		Research proposal and IRB application
	3/4	Lab: SPSS and Data entry		
9	3/9	SPRING BREAK		
	3/11	SPRING BREAK		
10	3/16	Lab: Results and Discussion section		Email SRA GA :title, group names
	3/18	Lab: Results and Discussion section		
11	3/23	Data Collection (No Class)	Meet w/ me if group needs help	
	3/25	Data Collection (No Class)	Meet w/ me if group needs help	
12	3/30	Lab: Making your poster		
	4/1	Lab: Data entry & Analysis	Meet w/ me if group needs help	
13	4/6	Lab: Data entry & Analysis	Meet w/ me if group needs help	
	4/8	Lab: Data entry & Analysis	Group time	
14	4/13	Lab: Poster creation	Group time	
	4/15	Poster meetings		
15	4/20	Group Time	Poster Completion Paper Completion	Last chance to meet before presentations!
	4/22	Senior Assignment Day!	Group time	Poster Presentation @ 3:30
16	4/27	Psychology Department Assessment		Final Paper Peer Evaluation
	4/29	Final Exam; Wrap up & Debrief		Course Evaluation

