

Capstone in Psychology (PSYC 494-701)
Spring 2021
Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:30-2:45 online

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Office Hrs	Wednesdays, 3-5PM, MSTeams And by appointment	Mondays, 3-5PM, MSTeams

Welcome to your capstone course in Psychology! In this class, you will take what you have learned throughout your Psychology career (critical thinking, research design, quantitative reasoning, reading, writing, presenting, and interpersonal skills) and conduct a research project from start to finish. Your semester will culminate in a poster presentation of your project for the Psychology department and a full APA Style paper. We will be talking extensively about the “replication crisis” in Psychology, and your projects will be replications and extensions of recent studies. Thus, after this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the *replication crisis* in Psychology, including evidence for and against it
- Explain possible reasons why research findings might not replicate, and evaluate each of those explanations

Through completion of this course and the associated Senior Assignment, you will be able to:

- work effectively in a group setting
- conduct a methodologically sound study
- determine the appropriate analyses for a study, analyze data using SPSS, and interpret statistical results
- write a full APA Style research report using proper formatting and appropriate content
- present your research findings in the form of a poster and oral presentation

STUFF YOU'RE PROBABLY WONDERING

What can I expect of the instructors in this class?

- Attendance (on time) for all class meetings
- A positive, rigorous, and intellectually-stimulating learning environment
- Effective and efficient assignments/exercises
- Responsiveness to email within the day (except to emails sent after 5PM and on weekends)
- Help when requested (via online meeting)

What is expected of me?

- Attendance (on time) for all class meetings
- Up to 9 hours per week of work for this course
- Professional interactions and grace with the instructors and your classmates
- A working knowledge of SPSS and the major statistical and methodological concepts from 220/221 (and your notes from those classes when needed)
- Requests for help when needed

Am I at a disadvantage for taking this course online?

Absolutely not. In fact, you'll be gaining facility and comfort with a variety of Microsoft products (MSWord, Powerpoint, MSTeams, OneDrive, maybe Excel) and SPSS. You'll be learning online etiquette and ways to best work remotely. You'll likely have *better* access to your group than you would if you were trying to meet in person. Generally speaking, taking this course online will prepare you for the changing world.

I hate groupwork. Will I have to work in a group, and will my grade depend on my group's performance?

Yes, you will have to work in a group. Research shows that groupwork is most effective when a) groups are NOT student-chosen, b) when the groups work together frequently, and c) when groups are given specific tasks to do. The course is structured with these things in mind, and you'll be given the opportunity to give feedback on your group's functioning frequently. Some of your grade will depend on groupwork, but most will be based on your individual performance.

HOW WILL THE GRADING WORK IN THIS CLASS?

All grades are recorded in terms of points (out of 500 total). So at any point in the course, you can take the # of points you've earned and divide it by the # of points that have been possible to that point and get your %. I use a standard 90%=A, 80%=B, etc., scale with no rounding.

Individual Grades (320 total points)

CitiTraining and SPSS Verification (10 pts) Week 1, basically free points.

Drafts of your paper (80 pts) At three points during the semester, you will upload drafts of your paper to Blackboard (Intro + Method, Results, Discussion). It is expected that each draft will be complete, as it is your ONLY chance to get written feedback on your paper. No late drafts accepted. More details on each draft can be found on Blackboard.

Oral exam on your project (80 pts) Your team will complete a 30-45 min oral exam about your project to ensure your preparation for the poster session. Your grade will reflect YOUR performance on this exam. Preparation ideas can be found on Blackboard. No make-up exams will be given.

Final paper (150 pts) A complete APA Style paper detailing your project will serve as your final assignment in this class. A grading sheet is available on Blackboard.

Group grades (180 points)

Project proposal (60 pts) This form is found on Blackboard; it contains questions about your project. Note that the deadline for this proposal is a "no later than" deadline....the sooner you get it to me, the sooner I can provide you feedback.

Poster draft (10 points) This is the final draft Dr. Meinz will comment before poster session.

Voiceover draft (10 points) This is the final draft Dr. Meinz will comment before poster session.

Final poster presentation (100 pts) You will be graded on the quality of your poster, as rated by the Psychology faculty at the Senior Assignment Poster Session. Your grade on this poster will be modified by your group's assessment of your participation in the group AND faculty ratings of your participation in the poster presentation. See group rating sheet and explanation on Blackboard.

CLASS RULES 😊

Project groups

I reserve the right to periodically ask for an evaluation of each team member, and to intervene if problems arise (including removal of a student from a team).

Class attendance

You are expected to be on time and prepared for all class periods and to stay the entire class period. Absence from class, lateness to class, leaving early, etc. will affect you and your team, *regardless of the reason*. If you miss class, you should be sure to find out what you missed from your teammates. If you miss more than the equivalent of 4 class periods, your final grade will be reduced by one full letter grade.

Communication If I need to contact you, I will do so via SIUE email. You are responsible for checking your SIUE email AND MSTEams daily.

Late work / Extensions These are unprecedeted times, and sometimes stuff happens. I can be flexible if needed as long as it's not a recurring issue. Also, please be professional and specific in your requests for such exceptions.

Academic Honesty ANY case of academic dishonesty (cheating and plagiarism) will receive the recommended university policy: failure of the course and reporting of the case to the Provost.

RELEVANT DEPARTMENT/UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Important university dates for this term:

Consult this page for withdrawal dates for this term: <https://www.siue.edu/registrar/index.shtml>

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

Statement on Disabilities Students needing accommodations because of medical diagnosis or major life impairment will need to register with **Accessible Campus Community & Equitable Student Support (ACCESS)** and complete an intake process before accommodations will be given. The ACCESS office is located in the Student Success Center, Room 1270. You can also reach the office by e-mail at myaccess@siue.edu or by calling 618.650.3726. For more information on policies, procedures, or necessary forms, please visit the ACCESS website at www.siue.edu/access.

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, 3) have your poster deemed acceptable by the faculty (i.e., a mean rating of 3 or above on the faculty evaluation form), and 4) fulfill any other senior assignment requirements stipulated by your professor. In the event that you do not fulfill all four requirements in a given semester, you will need to retake the Capstone course and complete all four 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. Ro), and two Senior Assignment Graduate Assistants (Danielle Vaughn and Madelyn Jenkins).

This semester's Senior Assignment poster session will be held ONLINE. Therefore, **student posters should be submitted electronically (a pdf file) to your Capstone professor by November 30th (Tuesday). Students also may be asked to submit a video presentation of their poster by this date which will assist the faculty's rating of the posters. Poster evaluations will start on December 2nd (Thursday)**. All students should meaningfully contribute throughout this process in order to pass Senior Assignment.

Please note that ONE member of your group should email the Senior Assignment Graduate Assistants (psychsra@yahoo.com) with the following information by November 5th (Friday): your Capstone professor's name, the title of your poster, and the names of all other members of your group. We need this information to get ready for the Senior Assignment poster session.

Students who take their capstone class in the fall may consider applying to present their research at the Midwestern Psychological Association (MPA) annual meeting in Chicago the following spring (typically late April or early May). Given the unique circumstances this year, please discuss with your Capstone professor to explore this option if you are interested.

If you have any questions related to Senior Assignment, please email Dr. Ro (ero@siue.edu) or the Graduate Assistants (psychsra@yahoo.com). Have a wonderful semester!

COVID-19 Pandemic Policies Related to Classroom Instruction (only relevant info here)

In the interest of preserving syllabus space for this *online class*, the entire COVID policy is not pasted here. Please see the full text of the COVID-19 People-Focused Health and Safety Policy can be found here: <https://www.siue.edu/policies/Covid.shtml>.

Academic Integrity

Students are reminded that the expectations and academic standards outlined in the Student Academic Code (3C2) apply to all courses, field experiences and educational experiences at the University, regardless of modality or location. Full text <https://www.siue.edu/policies/3c2.shtml>.

Recordings of Class Content

Faculty recordings of lectures and/or other course materials are meant to facilitate student learning and to help facilitate a student catching up who has missed class due to illness. As such, students are reminded that the recording, as well as replicating or sharing of any course content and/or course materials without the express permission of the instructor of record, is not permitted, and may be considered a violation of the University's Student Conduct Code (3C1), linked here: <https://www.siue.edu/policies/3c1.shtml>.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE – Capstone in Psychology (Dr. Meinz)

*More details and assignments, including what you need to prepare for each class, are on Bb.

M 8/23	<i>Welcome to Capstone!</i>
W 8/25	<i>The Replication Crisis</i> *CITI Training certificate and SPSS verification due
M 8/30	Conducting a Good Replication
W 9/1	<i>Reading and Dissecting an Article to Prepare for Replication</i>
M 9/6	<i>Labor Day – No Class</i>
W 9/8	<i>Group Work</i>
M 9/13	<i>An Example of a Replication and Extension</i>
W 9/15	<i>Group Work</i>
M 9/20	<i>Writing an Awesome Introduction</i> *Proposal due
W 9/22	<i>Writing an Awesome Method</i>
M 9/27	<i>Setting up Your Study in Qualtrics</i> *Intro draft due
W 9/29	<i>Group Time - Qualtrics</i> *Method draft due
M 10/4	<i>Group time - Qualtrics</i>
W 10/6	<i>Preparing for Data Analysis</i> *Project shared in Qualtrics with both instructors.
M 10/11	<i>Writing an Awesome Results Section, Tables and Figures</i>
W 10/13	<i>Writing an Awesome Discussion Section</i>
M 10/18	<i>Data analysis meetings</i>
W 10/20	<i>Data analysis meetings</i>
M 10/25	<i>Data analysis meetings</i>
W 10/27	<i>Making a Great Poster</i> *Results draft due
M 11/1	<i>Group time to work on poster</i>
W 11/3	<i>Group time to work on poster</i>
M 11/8	<i>Poster Drafts: Peer Eval Session</i> *Discussion draft due
W 11/10	<i>Making a Recorded Presentation</i>
M 11/15	<i>Group time to work on recorded presentation</i>
W 11/17	<i>Writing Your Abstract</i> * Posters and Voice Recording due, uploaded to Bb, for Dr. Meinz's feedback
M 11/22	<i>Fall Break – No Class</i>
W 11/24	<i>Fall Break – No Class</i>
M 11/29	<i>Group time</i>
TU 11/30	FINAL posters (PDF) and voice recordings due to Bb no later than NOON. Faculty will review them WED-FRI.
W 12/1	Individually-arranged group exams
M 12/6	Individually-arranged group exams
W 12/8	Class wrap-up, last minute questions
FR 12/10	*Final paper uploaded to Blackboard as one single document by NOON.

