

CAREERS IN PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 200-003 (3 credit hours) – Spring 2020
Mondays & Wednesdays, 3:00 – 4:15 p.m., Alumni Hall 0302

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Please Read: Students, I look forward to working with you this semester! To establish a framework in which both productivity and your academic experience in this course can be maximized, your first assignment in this course is to read this syllabus and the Email Policy and FAQs document. If you have any questions about the content of the syllabus or the Email Policy and FAQs document, please ask for clarification during the first two class meetings of the semester. Your continued enrollment in this course signifies your acceptance of and agreement to adhere to the policies detailed in these documents.

I. TEXTBOOK/READINGS

A. Required Textbook/Readings

- Helms, J. L., & Rogers, D. T. (2015). *Majoring in psychology: Achieving your educational and career goals* (2nd ed.). Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Readings posted on Blackboard

B. Optional Resource (not used in this course, but useful for professional writing)

- Straus, J., Kaufman, L., & Stern, T. (2014). *The blue book of grammar and punctuation: An easy-to-use guide with clear rules, real-world examples, and reproducible quizzes* (11th ed.). San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome to Careers in Psychology! This course has a number of goals, paramount among them being an exploration of the many potential career paths available to psychology majors. It is my hope that you will have the opportunity to investigate existing areas of interest within psychology, as well as get introduced to potential career options you had not yet considered. What makes this course different from many within the psychology major is its significant focus on you as a unique individual and your personal and professional development. Yes, traditional lecture will be used to disseminate some of the course information; however, assignments and in-class exercises will be plentiful, and they are tailored to help you explore your own values, interests, and ambitions as they relate to your future career.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES FOR STUDENTS

1. Gain a deeper understanding of your interests, skills, and values as they relate to career choices
2. Locate and familiarize yourself with career information and job search resources, including those offered by SIUE
3. Explore various means of professional networking, including through LinkedIn
4. Make an informed decision about your choice to major in psychology
5. Understand SIUE's psychology curriculum requirements, as well as experiential education opportunities

6. Review APA style according to the new 7th edition of the manual (released October 2019)
7. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the major subfields within psychology
8. Familiarize yourself with the steps necessary to apply to graduate or professional programs
9. Write a resume or curriculum vitae that effectively markets your skills, abilities, and experiences
10. Learn about job search strategies and various interviewing skills and techniques

IV. COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. Blackboard

This course will use Blackboard (<https://bb.siue.edu>) as the primary method for disseminating class materials. Announcements, updates, grades, and other important course information will be posted to Blackboard. **Note outlines** will be provided for each topic/unit. The outlines are designed to be completed in class (i.e., they will not contain all necessary information for exams). It is your responsibility to regularly check this course's Blackboard website throughout the semester.

B. Class Attendance and Expectations

Formal attendance will not be recorded for this course. However, to maximize your learning – and your performance on exams – you are strongly encouraged to attend all class sessions. **This class features a number of guest speakers and in-class exercises that cannot be made up if missed.** I occasionally provide helpful study hints during lectures. In addition, my exams are written to emphasize material discussed in class. While the textbook may provide helpful alternate explanations to main topics, the terminology, explanations, and examples we use in class will be the focus of exams.

Please come to class ready to learn and participate. A student who is ready to learn has turned off cell phones and other electronic devices (with the exception of a laptop exclusively for note taking) and is awake, alert, and focused (i.e., not sleeping, texting, engaging in conversation with others, etc.). A student can participate by answering questions, asking for clarification, and asking related questions, among other activities. Participation also includes utilizing office hours to ask questions or clarify concepts. During exams, students should put away all materials/items except a pen or pencil for writing, unless instructed otherwise. Video, photographic, and audio recording of lectures are prohibited.

Please demonstrate respect and professionalism toward me and your fellow students. In turn, you should expect that I will treat you with respect and act professionally in our interactions.

C. Department of Psychology Policy on Incomplete Grades and Withdrawal

All withdrawals must be completed by the end of the 13th week of classes during fall and spring, and by a similarly late date (i.e., before 82% of class meetings have occurred) in any summer term. Grades that apply to students who initiate a withdrawal and grades that apply when a student fails to officially withdraw within established deadlines are determined by university policy (see <http://www.siue.edu/policies/1j1.shtml>). The granting of a grade of I (Incomplete) is not automatic. It 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 coursework before the deadline for grade submission. 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.

D. The Psychology Department's Policy on Plagiarism

Plagiarism includes presenting someone else's words without quotation marks (even if you cite the source), presenting someone else's ideas without citing that source, or presenting one's own previous

work as though it were new. When paraphrasing from another source or your own work, at the very least, the student should change the wording, sentence syntax, and order of ideas presented in the paper. Additionally, you should not submit a paper, or parts of a paper, written to fulfill the requirements of one class for the requirements in another class without prior approval of the current instructor and appropriate citation. 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>.

F. 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 Accessible Campus Community & Equitable Student Support (ACCESS), Student Success Center, Room 1270 (phone: 618-650-3726, website: <http://www.siue.edu/access/>).

V. ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS, AND GRADING

A. Exam and Make-Up Exam Policy

You will be administered two exams consisting of multiple choice, true/false, and/or matching questions on scheduled dates during the semester (see Section VI). Each exam will cover all new material presented since the previous exam (or, for the first exam, since the beginning of the semester). Exam questions will focus on material presented during lecture, which may or may not be included in textbook readings. Regular class attendance and good note taking will be critical for success on exams.

You may request a make-up exam if you present valid documentation prior to the exam date (for serious pre-scheduled commitments) or within a reasonable timeframe following the exam (for emergencies). A "reasonable timeframe" is determined by the instructor, and all requests are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Examples of valid documentation include a funeral notice, physician's note listing the specific dates you were unable to attend class due to illness, hospital admissions and discharge paperwork, documentation of military service, notice of jury duty, subpoena ordering a court appearance, or police report for automobile accidents. If your absence is approved, you will schedule a time to take the exam during my office hours (or an alternate time may be scheduled for a graduate student to proctor the exam either in his/her office or the Resource Center in Alumni Hall 0348). The make-up exam will cover the same material as the original exam; however, it may contain alternate items and/or be in a format that differs from the original exam.

B. Assignment/Quiz Policy

While there are only two exams in this course, there are **a number of assignments** during the semester. **Late assignments will not be accepted. Zero (0) points will automatically be assigned for any late assignments.** Unless otherwise instructed, assignments are considered "turned in" when I am given a hard (i.e., paper) copy (or submitted online if the assignment is to be completed on Blackboard). Turn in/due times are the start time of class on the day an assignment is due. There are no exceptions for the assignment policy even in the event of an emergency. You are encouraged to complete and turn in assignments early.

C. Grading

Your grade is based on the total number of points you earn during the semester while completing the following course requirements:

1. **Exams (60 points each):** Two exams will be administered. Each exam will consist of multiple choice, matching, and/or short answer questions. Each exam will cover all new material presented since the previous exam (or, for the first exam, since the beginning of the course); in other words, exams will not be cumulative.
2. **Syllabus Quiz (10 points):** A quiz will be posted on Blackboard.
3. **Professional Communication Quiz (20 points):** A quiz will be posted on Blackboard.
4. **Group Scavenger Hunt (40 points):** Students will complete an SIUE scavenger hunt in groups. Students absent from class when groups are assigned must contact class members to see if they can join a group. Alternatively, absent students may complete the assignment on their own. Copies of the Scavenger Hunt form will be provided in class.
5. **APA Style Quiz (20 points):** A quiz will be posted on Blackboard.
6. **Resume/Curriculum Vitae (30 points):** Students will create a resume or CV.
7. **Career Profile and Budget (40 points):** Students will assemble a profile about a selected career and complete a budget based on anticipated income from the career.
8. **Online Career Assessments (50 points):** Students will complete assigned online career assessments, print the results, and write a short reflection paper about their results.
9. **Psychology Subfield Sales Pitch Video (30 points):** In a group, students will create a 5-10 minute pitch video for an assigned subfield and post the video to Blackboard.

A note about Blackboard quizzes: The Blackboard app for iPhone, Android, and PC may cause quizzes to submit without answers, resulting in a score of zero. **Please use a browser like Firefox and visit <https://bb.siue.edu> to complete all Blackboard quizzes.**

Extra credit will be awarded based on group performance on exam review games (i.e., first place team will receive the most points, second place team the second most, etc.). Other opportunities may also be available throughout the semester.

Grades will be determined by the following point allocations; percentages are listed only for reference. Grades will not be rounded up or curved.

			<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Points</u>
Exam 1	60 points			
Exam 2	60 points	A	100-90	360-323
Syllabus Quiz	10 points	B	89-80	322-287
Professional Communication Quiz	20 points	C	79-70	286-251
Group Scavenger Hunt	40 points	D	69-60	250-215
APA Style Quiz	20 points	F	59-0	214-000
Resume/Curriculum Vitae	30 points			
Career Profile and Budget	40 points			
Online Career Assessments	50 points			
<u>Psychology Subfield Sales Pitch</u>	<u>30 points</u>			
Total Points	360 points			

Students are responsible for regularly monitoring their grades via Blackboard. If a student has questions about a grade, believes a grade is incorrect, or discovers that a grade is missing in the Blackboard grade

book, he or she should contact the instructor as soon as possible. In these instances, the student is responsible for providing proof of an error that is satisfactory to the instructor. If more than one week has passed since grades for the assignment/exam were posted to Blackboard, no modifications to the grade book entry in question will be made.

VI. COURSE SCHEDULE

The following course schedule is a good faith estimate of topics to be covered during the semester. The schedule may be changed at the discretion of the instructor. Any changes will be announced in class and/or posted on Blackboard.

Note: H&R = Helms and Rogers (2015); other readings will be posted on Blackboard

Unless otherwise specified, assignments are due by the start time of class on the date listed in the course schedule.

(Course schedule on next page)

Date	Topics	Readings	Assignments/Exams
1/13 & 1/15	Syllabus Email Policy and FAQs Professional Communication First Week Assessment/Activity	Syllabus Email Policy and FAQs Encouragement File	Syllabus Quiz <u>Assigned</u> 1/13 Professional Communication Quiz <u>Assigned</u> 1/15
1/22	1/20 – No Class Group Scavenger Hunt Why Major in Psychology?	H&R Ch. 1	Group Scavenger Hunt <u>Assigned</u> 1/22 Syllabus Quiz <u>DUE</u> 1/22 Professional Communication Quiz <u>DUE</u> 1/22
1/27 & 1/29	Study Skills Inventory Succeeding in College and the Psychology Major APA Style Sign Up for Subfield Sales Pitch Video Groups	H&R Ch. 2 & 3	APA Style Quiz <u>Assigned</u> 1/29 Group Scavenger Hunt <u>DUE</u> 1/29 Sign Up for Subfield Sales Pitch Groups <u>In Class</u> 1/29
2/3 & 2/5	Preparing for the Job Market, Networking, & Interviewing Resumes/CVs	H&R Ch. 5 Getting a Job with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology	Resume/CV <u>Assigned</u> 2/3 Build a LinkedIn Profile <u>Assigned</u> 2/3 – <i>optional extra credit opportunity</i> APA Style Assignment <u>DUE</u> 2/5
2/10 & 2/12	Preparing for and Applying to Graduate School	H&R Ch. 6 & 7	Build a LinkedIn Profile <u>DUE</u> 2/12 – <i>optional extra credit opportunity</i>
2/17 & 2/19	Careers in Research	H&R Ch. 8	Resume/CV <u>DUE</u> 2/19
2/24 & 2/26	Careers in Clinical and Counseling Psychology	H&R Ch. 10	
3/2 & 3/4	Exam 1 Review Game – <i>Extra credit opportunity</i> Exam 1		Exam 1 Review Game <u>In Class</u> 3/2 <u>Exam 1 3/4</u>
3/9 & 3/11	Spring Break – No Class		
3/16 & 3/18	Careers in Educational and School Psychology	H&R Ch. 11	Career Profile/Budget <u>Assigned</u> 3/16
3/23 & 3/25	Careers in Exercise & Sport Psychology; Health Psychology	H&R Ch. 12 & 13	Career Profile/Budget <u>DUE</u> 3/23 Online Career Assessments <u>Assigned</u> 3/25
3/30 & 4/1	Careers in Neuropsychology	H&R Ch. 14	
4/6 & 4/8	Careers in Forensic Psychology	H&R Ch. 15	
4/13 & 4/15	Academic Careers	H&R Ch. 16	Online Career Assessments <u>DUE</u> 4/15
4/20 & 4/22	Careers in Industrial and Organizational Psychology	H&R Ch. 9	
4/27 & 4/29	TBD Encouragement Sharing – <i>Extra credit opportunity</i> Exam 2 Review Game – <i>Extra credit opportunity</i>		Encouragement Sharing – <i>Extra credit opportunity</i> Exam 2 Review Game <u>In Class</u> 4/29

Exam 2 (Final Exam) on Monday, May 4, 12:00 – 1:40 p.m.

Psychology Subfield Sales Pitch Video DUE Dates

Topic/Group	Posted to Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. on...
Careers in Research	2/16
Careers in Clinical and Counseling Psychology	2/23
Careers in Educational and School Psychology	3/15
Careers in Exercise & Sport Psychology	3/22
Careers in Health Psychology	3/22
Careers in Neuropsychology	3/29
Careers in Forensic Psychology	4/5
Academic Careers	4/12
Careers in Industrial and Organizational Psychology	4/19