



**PSYC 200-001**

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**Office & Office Hours** - For spring 2024, each Thursday from 8:15 – 9:15 in Alumni Hall 1126, or by appointment (Zoom or in-person appointments available if requested)

**Required Materials**

- Helms, J. L., & Rogers, D. T. (2015). *Majoring in Psychology: Achieving your educational and career goals*. West Sussex, United Kingdom: John Wiley & Sons.
- Other assigned readings will be posted on Blackboard.
- It will help if you consistently bring an internet-enabled device like a smartphone or laptop to class. Many worksheet questions (which you may complete in class in groups) will require internet searches.

**Course Description** This course is designed to provide you with information and skills that will help you select and succeed in a career in psychology.

**Course Objectives** By successfully completing this course, you should be able to:

1. Better understand SIUE’s career-boosting opportunities and psychology curriculum.
2. Demonstrate increased knowledge about subfields of psychology.
3. Understand how to find information about and otherwise prepare for graduate study.
4. Understand how to find information about and otherwise prepare for job searching.
5. Better understand your vocational interests and skills.
6. More skillfully locate and use resources for career information and job searching.

**Expectations & Policies**

1. Attend class and ask questions to clarify your understanding.
2. Carefully follow instructions posted on Blackboard.
3. Check Blackboard and your SIUE email for course-related announcements and instructions.
4. Make-up exams when necessary on designated make-up days, as described on Blackboard.
5. Show respect for your classmates during discussions. As college students I expect you to be open to a variety of viewpoints and opinions, including those with which you disagree. To disagree politely with someone in the class, follow the professional advice at <https://www.speakconfidentenglish.com/disagree-in-english/>.

**ACCESS Instructions** Students needing accommodations because of a 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. Students who believe they have a diagnosis, but do not have documentation, should contact ACCESS for assistance and/or appropriate referral. The ACCESS office is located in the Student Success Center, Room 1203. You can also reach the office by emailing [myaccess@siue.edu](mailto:myaccess@siue.edu) or by calling 618-650-3726. If you feel you would need additional help in the event of an emergency situation, please notify your instructor to be shown the evacuation route and discuss specific needs for assistance.

**Psychology Department** As a student in this course, you will be expected to display university-level writing, which includes completing course assignments that meet the following basic writing criteria.

## **Policy on Student Writing**

Specifically, all written assignments completed for this course should include:

- clear transitions from sentence to sentence and idea to idea (e.g., paper is organized/flows well);
- verb tense consistency;
- clear and unambiguous sentences and ideas;
- writing that is free of typos, spelling errors, and major grammatical errors;
- properly formatted citations and references (if relevant).

This is by no means an exhaustive list of basic writing skills, but will give you an idea of what we are looking for in our papers. If you feel you need help with your writing, you are encouraged to seek assistance from the writing center on campus (<https://www.siu.edu/lss/writing/index.shtml>) or utilize one of the many online resources they have identified to help students (<https://www.siu.edu/lss/writing/resources.shtml>). If your graded written assignments fail to meet the basic writing requirements listed above (and any others found to be appropriate by your instructor), the instructor will stop the grading process and return the paper to you (see below for the specific policy for this class).

In this class, the penalty for unacceptable writing is a zero on the submitted paper, with just one opportunity to start over with an entirely new paper (for full-credit) that is due within five days of the professor's notification that you received a zero on the paper.

## **Psychology Department 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.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.

## **Psychology Department 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.siu.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.

## Course Grades Graded Work in This Class (Total points = 340\*)

- WK 1 Worksheet 10 points
- WK 2 Worksheet 10 points
- WK 3 Worksheet 10 points
- WK 4 Worksheet 10 points
- Exam #1 (WK 5): **60** points (each exam question is worth 2 points)
- WK 6 (Clinical, Counseling, Neuro) Quiz: 10 Points
- WK 7 Worksheet 10 points
- WK 8 Worksheet 10 points
- WK 9 Worksheet 10 points
- Exam #2 (WK 10): **60** points (each exam question is worth 2 points)
- WK 11 (Academic Careers) Quiz: 10 Points
- WK 12 Worksheet 10 points
- WK 12 (Proofreading/Editing) Quiz: 10 Points
- WK 13 Worksheet 10 points
- WK 14 Worksheet 10 points
- Term Paper: **40** points
- WK 15 Worksheet 10 points
- Exam #3 (WK 16): **60** points (this is the final exam; each question is worth 2 points)

Assignments will be described in greater detail on Blackboard before they are due.

\*The two lowest worksheet grades will be dropped at the end of the semester so that you don't need to stress about missing one or two worksheets. (In very rare cases, dropping the two lowest worksheet grades can very slightly lower a student's final grade. But don't worry: In such cases, I use the higher final grade.) Worksheets cannot be made up. The penalty for submitting the paper after the class meeting in which it is due is a 25% grade reduction for each solar day it is late. For example, turning in a paper 11 minutes after the class in which it was due will result in a 25% grade reduction; turning it in 27 hours later would result in a 50% grade reduction.

The letter-grade thresholds will be at the X0.00% mark in this course, as usual. For example, to receive an "A" your percentage must be 90.00% or higher. To receive an F, your percentage must be below 60.00%.

### Tentative Class Schedule

Carefully read what's posted on Blackboard so you don't miss any learning material.

Week 1 (starts 1/8)	Career Myths and Career Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Please go through the Blackboard Coursework area to read and follow the instructions for this week</li><li>• Required readings, videos, worksheets, quizzes, and deadlines will always be available through text and links in the Coursework area on Blackboard</li><li>• Note that this first week is irregular because your worksheet will be submitted through Blackboard, not in class</li></ul>
Week 2 (starts after MLK holiday, 1/15)	Career Web Sites and the SIUE Career Development Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each week, please go through the Blackboard Coursework area to read and follow the week's instructions</li></ul>

Week 3 (starts 1/22)	Psychology as a Major, the SIUE Psychology Web Site, and APA Style <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Again, for every week of this course, please go through the Blackboard Coursework area to read and follow the week's instructions</li> </ul>
Week 4 (starts 1/29)	SIUE Psychology Major Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After reading this week's instructions in the Blackboard Coursework area, you may also want to look ahead at the Week 5/Exam #1 information</li> </ul>
Week 5 (starts 2/5)	<b>Monday, Wednesday: Review/Catch-up; Friday: EXAM #1</b>
Week 6 (starts 2/12)	Clinical and Counseling Psychology; Neuropsychology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did you notice what this week's instructions say about a Friday quiz?</li> </ul>
Week 7 (starts 2/19)	School, Educational, and Forensic Psychology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By now, I hope class procedures feel familiar, and you're always checking whether you have a worksheet or quiz (or both) in a given week</li> </ul>
Week 8 (starts 2/26)	Performance Psychologies: Industrial/Organizational, Exercise and Sport, and Health
Week of 3/4	<b>ENJOY SPRING BREAK</b>
Week 9 (starts 3/11)	"Experimental" Psychologies: Biological, Cognitive, Developmental, and Social-personality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did you notice what the instructions say about the term paper and when it is due?</li> </ul>
Week 10 (starts 3/18)	<b>Review/Catch-up on Monday; EXAM #2 on Wednesday; Online Learning Friday</b>
Week 11 (3/25)	Academic Careers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did you notice what this week's instructions say about a Friday quiz?</li> </ul>
Week 12 (starts 4/1)	Applying to Psychology Graduate Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did you notice what this week's instructions say about a Friday quiz?</li> </ul>
Week 13 (starts 4/8)	Graduate Programs and Careers in Related Fields: Marketing research, social work, public health, higher education student affairs, MBA vs. MPA
Week 14 (starts 4/15)	Job Market Preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did you notice that your term paper is due in class on Wednesday?</li> </ul>
Week 15 (starts 4/22)	Financial Independence and Retirement Planning
Final Exam (5/1 at 8 am in class)	<b>EXAM #3</b> (Note that the final exam is not at our usual class meeting time.)