

Course Syllabus

Introduction to the Psychology Major (IPM)

San Diego State University
Emilio C. Ulloa, Ph.D.
Schedule # 28862

Spring 2008
Wed 3pm
AL- 201

Office hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays 9:30-10:00 LS 170

Teaching Assistants:

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M-Z, Anastacia Tobin, dbestdancr@hotmail.com

Course description: Psychology majors sometimes have difficulty making the transition from college student to psychology graduate. Some learn, too late, about the steps needed for success in a given post-baccalaureate career endeavor to implement them effectively. Many psychology majors have no clear career goals beyond the completion of their current semester or baccalaureate degree (Oles & Cooper, 1983). Information about psychology related careers and skills acquired early in the undergraduate experience are thus crucial to your development as a psychology major.

Note: Psy 201 is only offered as a credit/no credit course

Course objectives:

This course has several main objectives: 1) to increase your knowledge about careers in psychology 2) to increase your knowledge about post-baccalaureate educational opportunities 3) to teach you how to find and use the resources available in the *psychology undergraduate advising center* 4) to teach you job search skills and 5) to help you develop a customized educational plan (CEP).

This course employs traditional lecture format, small group discussion, video presentations, invited guests, written assignments, and exercises.

Material:

(Required)

Kuther, L.T. (2006) *The Psychology Major's Handbook*. Second Edition. Thomson Wadsworth, CA.

(Optional)

Kuther, T. L. & Morgan, R. D. (2004) *Careers in Psychology*. Opportunities in a changing world.

Graduate Study in Psychology (APA)

CLICKERS:

What are Clickers?

Clickers are keypads which wirelessly transmit student input to a receiver connected to a computer used by an instructor. This is referred to as a "response system." I will be using this type of response system to present questions interspersed throughout the lectures, and to do group activities. THEREFORE, BUYING A CLICKER IS MANDATORY FOR THIS CLASS. CLASS PARTICIPATION, WILL BE TRACKED USING THE CLICKERS.

Other information about clickers/response systems at SDSU:

In Summer 2006, SDSU standardized on the elnstruction CPS radio frequency (RF) response

system after a selection process which included input from SDSU faculty and students, as well as from other universities with more experience with response systems. Almost 3000 students used this system in over 10 courses in Fall 2006. The SDSU Information Technology Services (ITS) has a useful website with more information and important links about the clickers: <http://clicker.sdsu.edu>. If you experience ANY trouble with your clicker or need help registering contact elnstruction at 1-888-333-4988.

Assignments and Learning objectives:

Assignments will not be evaluated formally with grades. Students are required to complete assignments for credit. Revisions of some assignments may be submitted. Students will be encouraged to keep electronic copies of assignments in a portfolio for future reference. During the course of the semester you will learn about the sub-disciplines of psychology and career paths of psychologists. You will use this information to develop your own customized education plan. Your assignments are exercises designed to reinforce the learning objectives in the course. Specifically, you should be able to identify and distinguish between different careers in psychology and related fields, you should be able to identify the steps necessary to achieve your educational career goals, you should be able to find and use the resources available in the *psychology undergraduate advising center*, and you should be able to utilize available information to develop a customized educational plan (CEP).

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory! All students are expected to attend each class session. Students are expected to have read the respective chapter before each class in order to be prepared to answer questions, and participate in class activities and discussions. **STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING THEIR CLICKERS TO EVERY CLASS.** You can not get credit for class participation without your clicker. Missed classes will not be excused for any reason. I do not accept doctors' notes, or any other written excuses.

Class participation:

Class participation will count for 20% of your grade. Therefore it is very important. Class participation points will be obtained by answering questions with your clicker during class. Your responses from your clicker are automatically recorded in my class database. I will upload the points for each day on to Blackboard at the end of each class period. You should monitor your points on Blackboard on a weekly basis to make sure everything is correct and your clicker is functioning properly. Whether or not you get the answer correct will not affect your credit for the questions. You get points by simply responding to the questions asked throughout the lectures with your clicker. Each participation day is worth 2 points. And you must be present for all clicker questions to receive points. There are more opportunities for clicker points than are necessary for credit (13 possible days- only 10 needed for credit) so you have "freebies" built in to the system. This allows for the occasional emergency and allows you enough time to register your clicker and allow for drop/adds. **If you forget to bring your clicker to class, you will not be able to receive class participation points for that day. I do not allow any form of "make-ups" for missed days.**

You will be asked to participate by answering questions with your clickers, and you are welcome to voice your questions and comments in class on a regular basis.

Evaluation method:

Clicker Participation.....20%
(13 possible clicker participation days, of which 10 will count; 10 x 2pts = 20pts total)

Assignments (listed below).....80%
(4 assignments, 20 pts each; 4 x 20pts = 80pts total)

A total of 70% (70 pts total) is required for credit in PSY 201. No student can be given a letter grade in PSY 201.

70-100 = Credit
0-69 = No Credit

Schedule:

Lectures

1/23	Introduction
1/30	What do psychologists do?
2/6	Overview of career paths in psychology (Academic/research vs. Hands on/helping profession)
2/13	Masters degrees (helping professions) Information interviews (at least 3)
2/20	Research careers in psychology: Exploring the PhD in Psychology (non-clinical and Clinical & Counseling Psych. PhD)
2/27	Exploring the differences between Clinical and Counseling Psychology and the PsyD Master's degrees (I/O and applied)
3/5	Clinical & Counseling Psych. PhD IN CLASS: Guest Speakers
3/12	Therapy and helping professions (Masters level): IN CLASS: Guest Speakers
3/19	Jobs for Psych Majors IN CLASS: Guest Speakers
3/26	Advising Center orientation IN CLASS: Orientation Worksheet
4/2	No Class (SPRING BREAK)
4/9	I/O and applied Psychology Undergraduate IN CLASS: Guest Speakers
4/16	Choosing a career path. CV/Resume and Customized Educational Plan (CEP)
4/23	Careers with the BA
4/30	Becoming involved: Service, volunteering, research experience, and internships
5/7	Network building/letters of reference, Personal Statement, Preparing for graduate school
5/14	Finals Week ALL FINAL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE

Ticket In / Assignments

DUE DATE	
1/30	Participation points: Read pages 2-8 *
2/6	Participation Points: Read pages 166-177*
2/13	Participation points: Read MSW, MFT, and I/O information (on blackboard)*
2/20	Participation points: Clinical Psychology handout (on blackboard) & pages 180-190*
2/27	Participation points: read PSI CHI article "clinical vs. counseling" ASSIGNMENT: INFORMATION INTERVIEW #1 DUE (A)
3/5	Participation points: guest clicker questions Bring questions for guest speakers
3/12	Participation points: guest clicker questions Bring Questions for Guest speakers
3/19	Participation points: guest clicker questions Bring Questions for Guest speakers
3/26	Participation points: career services
4/2	No Class (SPRING BREAK)
4/9	Participation points: Read pages 131-138*
4/16	ASSIGNMENT: Turn in completed orientation worksheet. Read CV document on blackboard
4/23	Participation Points ASSIGNMENT: CV / RESUME DUE
4/30	Participation points: Read pages 36-46, 52-54*
5/7	Participation points: pages 192-222*, pages 146-152
5/14	FINAL Projects Due: CEP and 2 Information Interviews (B)

*All clicker questions will be based on reading assignments for that given day.

** Unless otherwise noted, refer to the required book for all assigned reading pages.

Clicker Websites

SDSU Information Technology Services: <http://clicker.sdsu.edu>

eInstruction Website: www.einstruction.com

Tech support for eInstruction: techsupp@einstruction.com

CPSUniversity Website: www.cpsuniversity.com